

Suggested Title: "Arlen Specter: For the Record"

Exhibits

Nearly a year ago during the nationally televised hearings on the confirmation of Clarence Thomas to the Supreme Court, Senator Arlen Specter got an opportunity to display his prosecutorial skills before a large audience. He took up the Republican challenge to discredit Anita Hill and her accusations of sexual harassment against Mr. Thomas. News commentators described Mr. Specter as an experienced prosecutor, former district attorney, whose questioning would surely put Ms. Hill's story to the test. And perhaps it did. But many Americans, particularly women, were appalled by Mr. Specter's insensitivity and rank partisanship, as his senatorial opponent, Ms. Lynn Yeakel, so frequently reminds her audiences.

That judgment aside, I would like to speak to a less well known example of Mr. Specter's skill as a prosecutor, an episode which took place not in front of TV cameras but behind closed doors many years ago. I am referring, of course, to his work as an assistant counsel to the Warren Commission. That record, amply documented in the Warren Report, the 26 volumes of hearings and exhibits, and the files of the Warren Commission not published but available either through the National Archives or Freedom of Information requests and litigation, is utterly disreputable. It reveals someone not interested in pursuing the truth but intent on ignoring or misrepresenting any evidence contrary to the presumption that Lee Harvey Oswald was the sole assassin of President Kennedy. And let me stress that this is the public record not the flawed Hollywood version of the assassination offered up in Oliver Stone's JFK.

Ironically, it was this recent film which prompted Mr. Specter's most recent attempt to defend his work for the Warren Commission. He was so

incensed at being called a liar in the film that he threatened to sue Oliver Stone. Considering Mr. Stone's own difficulty in sorting out fact from fiction, that would indeed have been an interesting court battle. But I am confident Mr. Specter was bluffing. I believe the last thing he wants is to have his real record exposed in open court. Besides, if he was so concerned about his reputation he should have sued Harold Weisberg years ago. Considered by many (including the FBI) to be the "dean of assassination researchers", Mr. Weisberg invited a lawsuit when he published the following assessment of Mr. Specter's record: "...he lied without restraint; misrepresented without inhibition." (A) Similar statements were repeated on radio and to the press in Philadelphia at the time Arlen Specter was that city's district attorney, to which he had no reponse.

So, for the record, lets examine Arlen Specter's service to the Warren Commission and the American people. We will first concentrate on a few of his more egregious oversights or sins of omission; then we will take up the matter of outright deceit or sins of commission.

Sins of Omission

Reading through the hundreds of pages of testimony Mr. Specter took from crucial witnesses and experts, I have always been struck by the numerous pointless questions and abrupt shifts in a line of questioning. But perhaps most significant in this regard are the many crucial questions which were never asked. There is no better example of this than the chief autopsist, Dr. Humes', testimony before the Commission. At one point late in his testimony, Dr. Humes made the following incredible admission to assistant counsel Specter:

(B) "In the privacy of my own home, early in the morning of Sunday, November 24th, I made a draft of this report (i.e., the autopsy report on President Kennedy) which I later revised, and of which this represents the revision. That draft I personally burned in the fireplace of my recreation room."

Mr. Specter never bothered to ask Dr. Humes to explain his willful destruction of this crucial evidence.

(C) Over the years Arlen Specter has attempted to defend this gross oversight by saying these were just some notes that Dr. Humes destroyed. That is false, and Mr. Specter knows it is false. The record is plain not only from Dr. Humes' testimony but also from two certificates executed by Dr. Humes and "accepted and approved" by the President's personal physician, Dr. George Burkley. But even if these were just notes, the destruction of any evidence needed to be explained thoroughly. In court an opposing counsel would surely have taken up this matter Mr. Specter simply dropped.

(D) Another significant omission regarding the autopsy has to do with the number of people who witnessed the autopsy but were never called as witnesses. Among these there is no one more significant than the President's personal physician, Admiral George G. Burkley. Dr. Burkley not only witnessed the autopsy (with no less than 23 additional military personnel in the room), but he had been with the President in the motorcade in Dallas and at Parkland Hospital where emergency procedures were performed in a futile effort to save President Kennedy's life.

(E) Dr. Burkley signed the official death certificate, which, among other things, locates the wound to the President's back at "the level of the third thoracic vertebra." This location is inconsistent with two key Commission exhibits (#385 & 386), drawings which place that wound significantly higher and make somewhat more plausible Mr. Specter's entirely implausible "single-bullet theory."

(F)

Reflecting on the magnitude of this oversight, Harold Weisberg aptly commented in his book, Post Mortem:

"Perhaps the best explanation of the omission of George G. Burkley as a witness is that he is the one medical man who was in the motorcade when the crime was committed, was in the plane on the way back, was in the Navy autopsy room, and was the recipient of all the official evidence."

(D) Two other autopsy witnesses who were questioned by Mr. Specter but were never called to testify before the Commission were FBI agents, James Sibert and Frances O'Neill. They observed things that conflict with Mr. Specter's cherished single-bullet theory. Sibert and O'Neill observed that President Kennedy had been shot in the back, and that the autopsy doctors probed that wound to the depth of a finger and could not determine where the bullet that caused that wound went. At the time it was believed that CE399, the near-pristine bullet of the single-bullet theory, may have fallen out of the President's back at Parkland Hospital. But how, then, could this same bullet have caused all the wounds to Gov. Connally and allegedly been discovered on his stretcher at Parkland Hospital, as Mr. Specter would have us believe?

(G) Agents Sibert and O'Neill were also the recipients of a "missile" recovered during the autopsy. But the official version is built around the claim that no "missile" was recovered from the President's body.

(H) Just as Dr. Burkley, agents Sibert and O'Neill, among so many others, were largely ignored at the time, James T. Tague, one of the victims in the shooting, was incredibly almost passed over by the Warren Commission and Mr. Specter. The FBI had ignored Tague in their report completed on Dec. 9, 1963. The FBI's brief account of the shooting had all three shots striking in the limousine (hence no single bullet theory). But the slight wound Mr. Tague received and the mark on the curb where a bullet struck nearby were known to the Dallas police and press.

Although Mr. Tague's wound was very minor, he was indeed one of the victims of the assassination, along with Kennedy and Connally. The Warren Commission had originally planned to conclude its work by June. Yet it was not until June 11th when Mr. Specter recommended that Tague be examined "if" the Commission wanted to examine any additional witnesses in Dallas. Again, I defer to Mr. Weisberg's analysis:

(1) "Imagine! A man was wounded during the assassination and he had been ignored until months after the Commission had outlined its Report and had planned to finish its work and at that late date, more than six months after the assassination, Arlen Specter was only suggesting that if it wasn't too much trouble, maybe someone ought to speak to him."

Acknowledging that a bullet struck the curb where Jim Tague was standing, among other considerations, made Arlen Specter's single-bullet theory an absolute necessity to the conclusion that Lee Harvey Oswald was the sole assassin. When the Warren Report describes the single-bullet theory as "not necessary to any of its essential conclusions", that, to put it mildly, was false. And Mr. Specter knew that statement to be false because he knew that Jim Tague bled that day in Dealey Plaza.

There is no greater controversy in the investigation of this assassination than that surrounding the autopsy photographs and X-rays. Curiously enough, this again was an area for which Mr. Specter had primary responsibility.

Before we deal with the question of what role the Kennedy family or Robert Kennedy in particular may have played in blocking access to the autopsy photos and X-rays, it should be noted that had there been a trial of Oswald this "best evidence" would have had to have been produced in court in the context of the autopsy testimony. The Warren Commission had subpoena powers which could have been invoked to gain access to this evidence, as they were invoked to obtain the pictures and X-rays from Oswald's autopsy performed at

Parkland Hospital in Dallas.

(F) At a minimum, the autopsy photos and X-rays were necessary to corroborate the autopsy testimony. Indeed, Dr. Humes pointed out on several occasions during his testimony that his verbal description of the President's head wound was inadequate by itself -- that there was no substitute for the photographs of this wound. Moreover, when one considers the significant discrepancy between the depiction of the location of the President's back wound in CE385 & 386 and the autopsy face sheet diagram (not to mention the bullet holes in the President's jacket and shirt), the autopsy photos were an absolute necessity to resolve this discrepancy. Assistant counsel Specter had an obligation to do just this, but instead he chose to ignore these problems and pretend he could not have access to this "best evidence".

(J) This whole story gets much worse, almost farcical, when one realizes that, contrary to Mr. Specter's and others' complaints, the Warren Commission did, in fact, have access to the autopsy photographs and X-rays. They had been turned over to the Secret Service during the autopsy. In an untitled press release in 1966, the Secret Service disclosed that they had shown the X-rays to the members and staff of the Warren Commission. Moreover, chief counsel, (K) J. Lee Rankin, stated in a Jan. 21, 1964 executive session of the Warren Commission that they had the color photographs from the autopsy. And just six days later in another executive session meeting, Mr. Rankin observed: "...we (L) have the picture of where the bullet entered in the back, that bullet entered below the shoulder blade to the right of the backbone..."

Mr. Specter himself admitted in an interview which appeared in the Oct. 10, 1966 issue of U.S. News and World Report that he had seen a picture of the President's back wound, although he qualified this admission by saying the

picture was not "technically authenticated." Such an excuse is completely disingenuous because it was part of Mr. Specter's job to "technically authenticate" such evidence.

The fact is that neither Robert Kennedy, nor the Kennedy family, ever denied the Warren Commission access to these autopsy photographs and X-rays. And even had they wanted to, the Kennedys had no legal basis to stop the government from examining what, from the beginning, was government property.

Sins of Commission

The major sins of commission or outright deceit center on the single-bullet theory. That theory has not stood the test of time but was, in fact, still born, never having any substantial evidence to nourish it from the very moment of its conception in assistant counsel Specter's fertile imagination.

(M) To begin with, Mr. Specter must have known perfectly well, before any testimony had been taken, that the single-bullet theory was an impossibility. He knew that the President had been shot in the back, not the back of the neck, too low to have also caused the wound to the front of the President's throat. Indeed, according to doctors and nurses at Parkland Hospital that wound to the front of the throat had all the appearances of an entrance wound.

(N) Aside from the questionable drawings of the President's wounds (CE385 & 386) which were published in lieu of the actual photographs, every other piece of evidence and testimony confirmed that the President's back wound was roughly 5½ inches down on his back. In this context, Mr. Specter had to have been aware of the official death certificate signed by Dr. Burkley, even if he didn't bother to have Dr. Burkley testify before the Commission. As noted earlier in this article, that certificate places the President's back wound at

the level of the third thoracic vertebra.

The bullet that is alleged to have pierced the President's back and somehow exited his throat, going on to cause no less than five wounds, smash two bones, and deposit fragments in three distinct locations in Gov. Connally's body, is the near-pristine bullet, CE399, which was found at Parkland Hospital. Before returning to the truly amazing feats of CE399, it is important to recognize that Mr. Specter never established where exactly that bullet was found.

(D) In taking testimony about CE399, Mr. Specter frequently referred to the "fact" that it had come from Gov. Connally's stretcher. But the record reveals that this was never established, even after some degree of pressure was applied to the key witness, hospital attendant Darrell Tomlinson. He was pressured to the point where he said: "Yes, I'm going to tell you all I can, and I'm not going to tell you something I can't lay down and sleep at night with either." Following this Mr. Tomlinson unequivocally stated that he did not know from where the stretcher off of which CE399 fell had come.

(P) The so-called "persuasive evidence from the experts" which the Warren Report asserts supports the single-bullet theory is much less persuasive when you read the actual testimony of these experts, testimony which none other than Arlen Specter took. In every case when Mr. Specter bothered to show CE399 to these experts, rather than preface his questions and remarks by speculating about a hypothetical bullet, they were quite emphatic in rejecting the notion that this bullet could have caused even a portion of the damage attributed to it. Even Dr. Humes' response to the single bullet scenario was that it was "most unlikely".

Perhaps the pinnacle of deceptiveness was reached when it was asserted that CE399, on its historical and magical flight, passed through the President's shirt collar, also nicking his tie. Again, Arlen Specter knew better. Dr. Carrico,

(Q) who was the first doctor to see the President in the emergency room, testified that the wound to the President's throat was above the shirt collar. But it was not the intrepid Arlen Specter who elicited this information; rather, Commission member Allen Dulles asked this question about the location of that wound in Mr. Specter's presence.

(R) Moreover, Mr. Specter knew that the damage to the President's shirt and tie had been done by nurses with a scalpel. Nurse Diana Bowron testified: "...Miss Henchcliffe and I cut off his clothing." Harold Weisberg forced the FBI to take close-up pictures of the damage to the shirt and tie. And, lo and behold, these close-up photographs (which, incidentally, the FBI had not provided the Warren Commission) revealed slits, not a bullet hole.

Arlen Specter is without innocence in all this and so much more. The record I have cited throughout this article discloses that assistant counsel Specter deliberately avoided or misrepresented evidence contrary to the Warren Commission's presumption of Oswald's guilt. Despite his persistent disclaimers, Arlen Specter played a key role in deceiving the American people about the death of President Kennedy, not to mention his condescending and despicable effort to cram down our throats his ludicrous single-bullet theory as a reasonable explanation for no less than seven wounds on President Kennedy and Governor Connally.

Although President Kennedy has been dead for nearly thirty years now and many people would like to lay this tragic event to rest, I believe we have an obligation to objectively and critically examine the government's investigation of his death. People such as Arlen Specter bear great responsibility for the gross inadequacy and deceptiveness of that investigation. That Mr. Specter persists in distorting this record is reprehensible.

If integrity counts for anything these days in politics, Mr. Arlen Specter who is without any should be retired from political office forthwith by the voters of Pennsylvania.

Post Mortem

by Harold Weisberg

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Stewart is quite right. This is the first of the incredible things I noted in my very first examination of the Zapruder movie when I saw it in early 1966. I reported this in WHITEWASH II. As I record in PHOTOGRAPHIC WHITEWASH (pp.25,145), the Commission simply reversed the pictures in printing them to make it seem that the President's head moved forward. It did not. It snapped sharply backward before the President fell over to his left, onto his wife.

"And there was blood and brain substance found on one of the policemen riding behind on a motorcycle," Stewart said, to which Dolan added, "Behind to the left." This, too, is correct. That motorcycle policeman was Billy Hargis. He was, as Dolan pointed out, both to the left and behind the President, making officially inexplicable the generous splashing of the President's blood and brains he and his cycle got. This spewing to the left of matter from an explosion allegedly out of a defect only on the right is inconsistent, officially unexplained and entirely avoided. Mrs. Connally (WHITEWASH 3), who was on the President's left, testified, "... it felt like bucksnot falling all over us ... it was the matter, brain tissue ...". Governor Connally (WHITEWASH 5), who was in front of the President, testified, "Immediately I could see on my clothes ... on the interior of the car ... brain tissue as big as almost my thumb (sic)." In his interrogation of AP Photographer James W. Altgens (PHOTOGRAPHIC WHITEWASH 70,203), Wesley Liebelier suppressed what Altgens told the FBI, "that pieces of flesh, blood and bones appeared to fly from the right side of the President's head and pass in front of Mrs. Kennedy to the left of the Presidential limousine".

Instead of addressing this inconsistency, a seeming impossibility, rather than confronting unquestioned evidence that could invalidate the case they were building and the Report they planned, the Commission staff pretended the evidence did not exist.

Dr. Stewart interpreted this phenomenon as one that "completely substantiated the finding that this was a left frontal entry wound" and said the other doctors also did. He also declared the obvious, what any layman can also know with certainty, that it would be "impossible for a marksman in the sixth floor" window "to have created that kind of wound, shooting from behind".

These omissions are really suppressions. They are not unique in Specter's record with the Commission and he alone is not responsible for them, as the until-now secret record proves. Other vital evidence entirely opposite to the predetermined conclusions with which the Commission began its work were blatantly suppressed. Expert witnesses, examined in advance by Specter, and others who declared themselves and their knowledge of science and evidence to be opposed to these official preconceptions, were either not called or were carefully questioned to avoid that to which they indicated in advance they would not swear.

Specter is the chief offender. This, too, is consistent with his subsequent record of public dishonesty, a record he converted into political profit during his mayoralty campaign by his late June appearance on the CBS "specials". After the appearance of WHITEWASH, he refused a dozen or more requests to confront me on radio and TV, including several repeated invitations in his own city, Philadelphia. Instead, he preferred and extensively exploited partisan, mass-distribution sources, like UPI, U.S. News and World Report and CBS.

His disgraceful record prompted me, in writing WHITEWASH II, much of Part II of which is devoted to him and this record, to declare, "he lied without restraint, misrepresented without inhibition" (p.103). These I there described as "harsh words" and said, "They are not used by accident. If untrue they are actionable. If Specter thinks they are untrue, let him sue and confront ... For the first time in the entire fake inquest an opposing lawyer." He was, as he remains, silent, for I also

published the proof of these charges with them.

His appearances on the CBS shows were also characterized by lies. By this I mean not accidental errors, such as an uninformed man might innocently make, but false statements the truth of which Specter knew. Here are a few readily apparent samples:

In the second of these shows he "explained" what was described as a "theory besides the single bullet theory, that would support the conclusions in the Report":

SPECTER: The Commission concluded that it was probable that one bullet inflicted the wound on the President's neck, and all of the wounds on Governor Connally. But you could have three separate bullets striking under the sequence as we know them. For example, the President could have been struck at frame 186 of the Zapruder film, which is a number given to the Zapruder film. Then Governor Connally could have been struck some 42 frames later, which would be a little over two and a quarter seconds at about frame 223 or 229; and then the third shot could have hit President Kennedy's head at frame 313, which was pretty clearly established. So that it is not indispensable to have the single bullet conclusion in order to come to the basic finding that Oswald was the sole assassin.

Now that his single-bullet theory was exploded, Specter preferred the cold wreckage of the old "Tague didn't bleed" fiction to its hot fragments. As the preceding chapter shows, there is no possibility that Specter did not know this statement on CBS was completely false. He also knew that at Frame 186 a bullet could not have had the trajectory attributed to Bullet 399 and there is no evidence of a hit at Frames 228 or 229.

In the last of the series, he volunteered this statement:

When it came time to select the individuals to serve as assistant counsel and general counsel, men were chosen from various parts of the United States who had no connection with government.

Again, Specter knew better. These men were his former associates, men with whom he was still in contact. He knew them and their careers very well. But if he "forgot", the Report documents it (Biographical Appendix IV, 475ff.). This is not just a lie; it is a whopper. Let us see who these men "chosen from various parts of the United States" were and how they "had no connection with government".

The Commission's boss, its general counsel, J. Leo Rankin, was Solicitor General of the United States. His staff director, Howard Willens, was loaned by and returned to the same Department of Justice for which Rankin had worked. All the Commission members were or had been high government officials, and all but one, Allen Dulles, formerly head of the CIA, then enjoyed government responsibilities. More than half of the fourteen assistant counsel had been government employees!

Twelve "staff members" are listed in the Report (R479-31). Of these, all but one had been government employees or were at the time of their appointments to the Commission.

But Specter told the world-wide audience of CBS, knowing better all the time, that "men were chosen ... who had no connection with government".

So we know why, when I called Arlen Specter, father of the single-bullet theory, one of the two most important assistant counsel, the man most responsible for the corrupted medical and autopsy testimony and a political climber whose career was made possible by his political apostasy (in Oswald they called it "defection"), a man who "lied without restraint" and challenged him to sue me, he did not.

My purpose was not spectacle, not sensation, but to establish a record, a record as the law recognizes it, not as he and his associates corrupted it in their official Commission function, a record before a judge and a jury, a record of fact tested by that machine for the establishment of truth, as lawyers call cross-examination.

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Never once did I exploit this challenge to sell my books, not even in his city, where it could have been used by his political opponents. When I made broadcasts in his city on WHITENASH II, I never once mentioned it. Of course, this made it easier for him to ignore it, but it also did not saddle him alone with a responsibility he shared with so many others equally guilty of pretending lies are facts.

However, in pursuing his ambition and his attempts at self-justification, Specter has paced his lying with an assortment of devices ranging from the unbaggging of cats to hiding behind the Chief Justice's judicial robes. This and his false statements and misrepresentations are important because of the function he had on the Commission and because of his until-now secret record in that function.

He was interviewed by Joseph R. Daughen of the Philadelphia Bulletin. Daughen's long account of it appeared August 28, 1966. In it he quotes Specter as saying of the autopsy and what derives from it that it "rests squarely on the integrity of Humes, Boswell and Finck. We are talking about the integrity of the doctors and the autopsy."

At that point I wrote (WHITENASH II, 100), "We are also talking about the integrity of Arlen Specter."

In Arlen Specter's integrity, that of the doctors he named, the members of the Commission, in fact, that of the United States Government and all of its people, was vested.

After his CBS appearances - after I obtained a transcript of his remarks - and prior to writing this, I offered him a chance to withdraw or retract his false statements that I believe cannot be accidental. Simple acknowledgment of error could not begin to catch up with the enormous audience that saw and heard Arlen Specter, candidate for public office and greater public trust, tell these lies world-wide on CBS. His reply to my letter was a reiteration that he had been nothing less than accurate.

"I have full confidence in the accuracy of all the statements which I have made concerning the work of the President's Commission on the Assassination of President Kennedy," he wrote.

On the remote chance that this paragon of political virtue did not recall what he had said, or the even lesser likelihood, that his intent had been distorted in editing, I sent him photocopies and asked that he read them and reaffirm that he had been only truthful.

To this the man then but two months away from the election to choose the mayor of one of the world's largest cities replied that his previous letter required "no amplification". In short, he persisted in his lies - this time for political benefit.

Any inquiry into the investigation of the assassination inevitably is into the integrity of those who conducted it. From that vast suppression of what was in the files and known, should have been made public and wasn't, I dug up a number of other documents that, to the best of my knowledge, had never before been published if, indeed, seen by anyone not in official position. They relate very much to this question of integrity, that of Specter and of everyone else involved. We shall examine them after a backgrounding look into how the client truth was served.

Whether or not they planned in advance the lies they would tell to lie out of the mass of the report, government officials had them ready when first confronted with the first book that proved they lied. Had personal knowledge not been represented, it might be possible to consider this misinformation as less than lies, perhaps merely error. A major newspaper printed them, and fed them to other papers, possibly in good faith, and launched and helped achieve acceptability for the line Arlen Specter and others were to follow.

I know, because I am responsible for that newspaper interest. The book was WHITENASH: THE REPORT ON THE WARREN REPORT; the newspaper, the Washington Post.

Vol 2 HEARINGS AND EXHIBITS OF
THE WARREN COMMISSION

pp. 372-375 from Dr. HUMES'
testimony

UMES. To the best of my recollection, Mr. Chief Justice, it

. Mr. McCloy.
May I ask this question?
Go right ahead.

Do you have any knowledge as to whether or not any photo-
n in Dallas?

UMES. I have none, sir, no knowledge.
o knowledge that any were taken?

Representative FORD. May I ask what size are the pictures to which you refer?
Commander HUMES. We exposed both black and white and color negatives.
Congressman. They were exposed in the morgue during the examination.
They were not developed. The kodachrome negatives when developed would
be 405. They were in film carriers or cassettes, as were the black and white.
Of course they could be magnified.

Representative FORD. Have those been examined by personnel at Bethesda?

Commander HUMES. No, sir. We exposed these negatives; we turned them
over. Here I must ask the counsel again for advice—to the Secret Service.

Mr. SPECTER. Yes; it was the Secret Service.

Commander HUMES. They were turned over to the Secret Service in their
cassettes unexposed, and I have not seen any of them since. This is the photo-
graphs. The X-rays were developed in our X-ray department on the spot that
evening, because we had to see those right then as part of our examination, but
the photographs were made for the record and for other purposes.

Representative FORD. But they had never been actually developed for viewing.

Commander HUMES. I do not know, sir.

Mr. SPECTER. Doctor Humes, back to the angles for just a moment.

Commander HUMES. Yes, sir.

Mr. SPECTER. Hypothesize or assume, if you will, that other evidence will
show that the wound inflicted on Commission Exhibit 385 at point C occurred
while the President was riding in the rear seat of his automobile approximately
100 feet from a point of origin in a six-floor building nearby, and assume fur-
ther that the wound inflicted in 388 at point A occurred when the President
was approximately 250 feet away from the same point.

With those assumptions in mind, there would be somewhat different angles
of declination going from C to D on 385 and from A to B on 388.

Commander HUMES. I would expect there would.

Mr. SPECTER. You have already testified earlier today that you were unable
to pinpoint with precision angle A to B on 388 because of the reconstruction
of the scalp.

Now my question to you, in that elongated fashion, is from what you know
and what you have described, are the angles, as you have expressed them to
be in your opinion, consistent with a situation where the two wounds were
inflicted at the angles and at the distances just described to you?

Commander HUMES. I believe they are consistent. I would state that the path
outlined on 388-A to B is to a certain extent conjectural for the reasons given
before.

Mr. SPECTER. Now, Doctor Humes, I hand you a group of documents which
have been marked as Commission Exhibit No. 397 and ask you if you can
identify what they are?

Commander HUMES. Yes, sir; these are various notes in long-hand, or copies
rather, of various notes in long-hand made by myself, in part, during the per-
formance of the examination of the late President, and in part after the exami-
nation when I was preparing to have a typewritten report made.

Mr. SPECTER. Are there also included there some notes that you made while
you talked to Doctor Perry on the telephone?

Commander HUMES. Yes, sir; there are.

Mr. SPECTER. Are there any notes which you made at any time which are not
included in this group of notes?

Commander HUMES. Yes, sir; there are.

Mr. SPECTER. And what do those consist of?

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Commander HUMES. In privacy of my own home, early in the morning of Sunday, November 24th, I made a draft of this report which I later revised, and of which this represents the revision. That draft I personally burned in the fireplace of my recreation room.

Mr. SPECTER. May the record show that the Exhibit No. 397 is the identical document which has been previously identified as Commission No. 371 for our internal purposes.

Is the first sheet then in that group the notes you made when you talked to Doctor Perry?

Commander HUMES. That is correct, sir.

Mr. SPECTER. And do the next 15 sheets represent the rough draft which was later copied into the autopsy report which has been heretofore identified with an exhibit number?

Commander HUMES. That is correct, sir.

Mr. SPECTER. And what do the next two sheets represent?

Commander HUMES. The next two sheets are the notes actually made in the room in which the examination was taking place. I notice now that the handwriting in some instances is not my own, and it is either that of Commander Boswell or Colonel Finck.

Mr. SPECTER. And was that writing made at the same time that the autopsy report was undertaken; that is, did you review all of the markings on those papers and note them to be present when you completed the autopsy report?

Commander HUMES. Yes, sir. From the time of the completion of this examination until the submission of the written report following its preparation, all of the papers pertinent to this case were in my personal custody.

Mr. SPECTER. Have you now described all of the documents which were present in that 397, Exhibit No. 397?

Commander HUMES. Yes, sir; with the exception of the certification to the fact that I, in fact, detailed them in my custody, and a certification that I had destroyed certain preliminary draft notes.

Mr. SPECTER. And these represent all the notes except those you have already described which you destroyed?

Commander HUMES. That is correct, sir.

Mr. SPECTER. Now, just one point on the notes themselves. Page 14 of your rough draft, Doctor Humes, as to the point of origin, the notes show that there was a revision between your first draft and your final report.

Commander HUMES. Yes, sir.

Mr. SPECTER. Will you first of all read into the record the final conclusion reflected in your final report.

Commander HUMES. I would rather read it from the final report. The final report reads:

"The projectiles were fired from a point behind and somewhat above the level of the deceased."

Mr. SPECTER. And what did the first draft of that sentence as shown on page 14 of your rough draft state?

Commander HUMES. It stated as follows:

"The projectiles were fired from a point behind and somewhat above a horizontal line to the vertical position of the body at the moment of impact."

Mr. SPECTER. Now would you state the reason for making that modification between draft and final report, please?

Commander HUMES. This examination, as I have indicated, was performed by myself with my two associates. The notes which we have just admitted as an exhibit are in my own hand and are my opinion, was my opinion at that time, as to the best way to present the facts which we had gleaned during this period.

Before submitting it to the typist, I went over this with great care with my two associates. One or the other of them raised the point that perhaps this sentence would state more than what was absolutely fact based upon our observations, pointing out that we did not know precisely at that time in what position the body of the President was when the missiles struck, and that therefore we should be somewhat less specific and somewhat more circumspect than the way we stated it. When I considered this suggestion, I agreed that it would be better to change it as noted, and accordingly, I did so.

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. Chief Justice, I move now for the admission into evidence of Exhibit No. 397.

The CHAIRMAN. It may be admitted.

(The documents, previously marked Exhibit No. 397 for identification, were received in evidence.)

Mr. McCLOY. May I ask one question about the notes? The notes that you made contemporaneously with your examination, you said you put those down and then you put some in later. How much later were the notes, within the best of your recollection of the final notes made, not the final report, but the final notes that you made in your own handwriting?

Commander HUMES. The examination was concluded approximately at 11 o'clock on the night of November 22. The final changes in the notes prior to the typing of the report were made, and I will have to give you the time because whatever time Mr. Oswald was shot, that is about when I finished. I was working in an office, and someone had a television on and came in and told me that Mr. Oswald had been shot, and that was around noon on Sunday, November 24th.

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. Chief Justice, I have now marked another photograph as the next exhibit number, Commission Exhibit 398. May I say to the Commission that this is a photograph which, subject to later proof, will show it to be taken immediately after the President was struck by the first bullet.

The CHAIRMAN. It may be marked.

(The photograph was marked Commission Exhibit No. 398 for identification.)

May I move for its admission into evidence at this time for this purpose?

The CHAIRMAN. It may be admitted.

(The photograph, previously marked Commission Exhibit No. 398 for identification, was received in evidence.)

Looking at Commission Exhibit 398, Doctor Humes, with that as a background, have you had an opportunity to review the medical reports on Governor Connally at Parkland Hospital in Commission Exhibit 392?

Commander HUMES. I have.

Mr. SPECTER. Have you noted the wounds which he sustained on his right wrist, that is, Governor Connally's right wrist?

Commander HUMES. Yes, sir; I have noted the report of it in these records.

Mr. SPECTER. What does the report show as to those wounds on the right wrist?

Commander HUMES. The report shows a wound of entrance on the dorsal aspect of the right wrist. Let's get the precise point here. The wound of entry is described as on the dorsal aspect of the right wrist above the junction of the distal fourth of the radius and the shaft. It was approximately two centimeters in length and rather oblique, with the loss of tissue, and some considerable contusions at the margins. There was a wound of exit along the volar surface of the wrist about two centimeters above the flexion crease of the wrist in the midline.

Mr. SPECTER. Doctor Humes, I show you a bullet which we have marked as Commission Exhibit No. 399, and may I say now that, subject to later proof, this is the missile which has been taken from the stretcher which the evidence now indicates was the stretcher occupied by Governor Connally.

I move for its admission into evidence at this time.

The CHAIRMAN. It may be admitted.

(The article, previously marked Commission Exhibit No. 399 for identification, was received in evidence.)

Mr. SPECTER. We have been asked by the FBI that the missile not be handled by anybody because it is undergoing further ballistic tests, and it now appears, may the record show, in a plastic case in a cotton background.

Now looking at that bullet, Exhibit 399, Doctor Humes, could that bullet have gone through or been any part of the fragment passing through President Kennedy's head in Exhibit No. 388?

Commander HUMES. I do not believe so, sir.

Mr. SPECTER. And could that missile have made the wound on Governor Connally's right wrist?

Commander HUMES. I think that that is most unlikely. May I expand on those two answers?

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Mr. SPECTER. Yes, please do.

Commander HUMES. The X-rays made of the wound in the head of the late President showed fragmentations of the missile. Some fragments we recovered and turned over, as has been previously noted. Also we have X-rays of the fragment of skull which was in the region of our opinion exit wound showing metallic fragments.

Also going to Exhibit 392, the report from Parkland Hospital, the following sentence referring to the examination of the wound of the wrist is found:

"Small bits of metal were encountered at various levels throughout the wound, and these were, wherever they were identified and could be picked up, picked up and submitted to the pathology department for identification and examination."

The reason I believe it most unlikely that this missile could have inflicted either of these wounds is that this missile is basically intact; its jacket appears to me to be in tact, and I do not understand how it could possibly have left fragments in either of these locations.

Mr. SPECTER. What wounds did Governor Connally sustain in his chest area, based upon the records of Parkland Hospital, which you have examined, Doctor Humes?

Commander HUMES. Governor Connally received in his chest a wound of entrance just—this is again from 392—"just lateral to the right scapula close to the axilla which had passed through the latissimus dorsi muscle, shattered approximately ten centimeters of a lateral and anterior portion of the right fifth rib, and emerged below the right nipple anteriorly."

These were the wounds of the chest of Governor Connally.

Mr. SPECTER. Now assuming that there were only three missiles fired, and bearing in mind the positions of President Kennedy and Governor Connally from the photograph marked Commission Exhibit 398, do you have an opinion as to the source of the missiles which inflicted the wound on President Kennedy marked 385-C to D, and the wound in Governor Connally's chest which you have just referred to?

Commander HUMES. Yes. I would preface this statement by the following: As I testified earlier in the afternoon, as much as we could ascertain from our X-rays and physical examinations, this missile struck no bony structures in traversing the body of the late President. Therefore, I believe it was moving at its exit from the President's body at only very slightly less than that velocity, so it was still traveling at great speed.

I believe in looking at Exhibit 398, which purports to be at approximately the time the President was struck, I see that Governor Connally is sitting directly in front of the late President, and suggest the possibility that this missile, having traversed the low neck of the late President, in fact traversed the chest of Governor Connally.

Mr. SPECTER. How much of the velocity, if any, or would there be an appreciable diminution of the velocity of the projectile on passing through the portions of President Kennedy's body which you have described?

Commander HUMES. I would have to defer to my associate, Colonel Finck, for an opinion about this.

Mr. SPECTER. Fine. As to any damage to the rib which you described Governor Connally sustained, would that impact or trauma be consistent with the markings which are shown on Exhibit 399?

Commander HUMES. I think it quite possible. Here I think if this point were to be explored further, a most valuable piece of evidence would be an X-ray of the chest of Governor Connally, because I believe that this missile could have struck the rib a glancing blow.

The rib is a rather rigid structure, and the missile would not have to strike it directly to cause the fracture that was described, and the fracture is not very clearly described to me, and if an X-ray, for instance, showed no metallic fragments in the chest of the Governor, I would think it quite likely that this was the missile that had traversed his chest, because I doubt if this missile would have left behind it any metallic fragments from its physical appearance at this time.

Exhibit C

From pp. 524-525

Post Mortem

by Harold
Weisberg



U. S. NAVAL MEDICAL SCHOOL
NATIONAL NAVAL MEDICAL CENTER
BETHESDA, MARYLAND 20014

In reply refer to

24 November 1963

C-E-R-T-I-F-I-C-A-T-E

I, James J. Humes, certify that I have destroyed by
burning certain preliminary draft notes relating to Naval
Medical School Autopsy Report A63-272 and have officially
transmitted all other papers related to this report to
higher authority.

J. J. Humes
J. J. HUMES
CDR, MC, USN

accepted and approved this date

George A. Burkley

Rear Adm USN

Physician to the President

This is the original of Humes' certificate that he burned a draft of the autopsy report. It is not the same as the copy printed by the Commission, 17H48, which does not include the handwritten approval of Dr. Burkley. Indeed, what can be said when the President's physician certifies that he accepts and approves the burning of evidence in the crime! See p. 261.

This certificate has led to the myth, propagated by Arlen Specter, that Humes burned his autopsy notes. "The record is plain," Specter told U.S. News and World Report, 10/10/66, "that there had been a series of notes taken by Dr. Humes at the time of the actual performance of the autopsy which had been destroyed." Specter knew better, since he put this certificate (absent the Burkley endorsement) into evidence and had it confirmed by Humes (2H373). As the certificate on the next page makes clear, the "autopsy notes" were preserved. What Humes burned he alternately described as "preliminary draft notes" (above) and "that draft" of the autopsy report later revised, (2H373).

Having been assured by Humes that the first draft of the autopsy report had been destroyed forever by burning, Specter asked not a single question, not even the simple, indispensable question: Why? On this the Commission's record is barren. Specter, however, would like the public to believe otherwise. He now claims Humes "explained his reasons (for burning) fully before the Commission"—in his testimony.



U. S. NAVAL MEDICAL SCHOOL
NATIONAL NAVAL MEDICAL CENTER
BETHESDA, MARYLAND 20014

In reply refer to

24 November 1963

C-E-R-T-I-F-I-C-A-T-E

I, James J. Humes, certify that all working papers associated with Naval Medical School Autopsy Report A63-272 have remained in my personal custody at all times. Autopsy notes and the holograph draft of the final report were handed to Commanding Officer, U. S. Naval Medical School, at 1700, 24 November 1963. No papers relating to this case remain in my possession.

J. J. Humes
J. J. HUMES
CDR, MC, USN

Received above working papers this date.

J. H. Stover, Jr.
J. H. STOVER, JR.
CAPT, MC, USN
Commanding Officer, U.S. Naval Medical School
National Naval Medical Center

Accepted and approved this date

George G. Burkley
Rear Adm MC USN

Physician to the President

This, an original copy, also bears the endorsement of Dr. Burkley absent from the copy published by the Commission. Here Humes makes explicit that he never burned any notes made during the autopsy. "Autopsy notes and the holograph draft of the final report" were preserved and given to Capt. Stover on November 24. Stover must have received all autopsy notes because Humes specifies that "all working papers" of the autopsy were in his possession until the transfer to Stover, after which "no papers relating to this case remain in my possession." With this transmittal, the mysterious story of the missing autopsy notes begins. See pp. 145, 261.

pp. 71-72
pp 531-537

From Post Mortem

by Harold Weisberg

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Finding Specter's - the Commission's - skeletons did not require opening all the official graves. Indeed, the bulk alone makes this impossible. The files are estimated to total 300 cubic feet. In files, where millions of words can be contained in a single cubic foot, the total is enormous, incalculable. The unpleasant truth is that, once one learns to skip around the extensive junk, the trivia and the great volume of the irrelevant, it is almost impossible not to stub an investigative toe on a promising stone.

When there is a murder, the autopsy and the medical evidence are, of course, essential evidence.

Had Harwood merely phoned the District of Columbia morgue, as I did, he would have learned that its officials would not have been satisfied with that kind of inquest when investigating the murder of a skid-row bum, let alone that of a President.

Only because he failed to look into it did Harwood not learn that those present at the actual autopsy were limited to military medical personnel, except for the assigned Secret Service and FBI agents, the former apparently to keep an eye on the corpse and the latter to eye them.

This, in the files, leads inevitably to Specter, what he knew, what he knew and kept out of the record that, as the Commission's lawyer in charge, he was responsible for, and the alleged basis of the FBI's above-quoted reports.

What one finds here is contradictory to what Specter adduced and to the Report, those parts of which Specter presumably drafted for Commission signature.

The reports of FBI Baltimore Office Agents James W. Sibert and Francis X. O'Neill were not printed when the Commission had 26 very large volumes it devoted to what, lacking any appropriate designation, has been termed "evidence". Not in the estimated 10,000,000 words was there space for these accounts of who was present at the autopsy and what was observed there before and during the examination. The reports are in the Commission's fifth file.

From the official record built by Specter, one would gather that only these agents and Autopsy Surgeons James J. Humes and J. Thornton Boswell of the Navy and Pierre Finck of the Army were present. This is false. Aside from those who entered on various missions, 13 others were there. Sibert and O'Neill, who may be excused their misspelling of names, if not incompleteness of which we shall learn, list these others with the introduction, "The following individuals attended the Autopsy":

Adm. C. B. HOLLOWAY, U.S. Navy, Commanding Officer of the U.S. Naval Medical Center, Bethesda;
Adm. BERKLEY, U.S. Navy, the President's personal physician;
Commander JAMES J. HUMES, Chief Pathologist, Bethesda Naval Hospital, who conducted autopsy;
Capt. JAMES H. STONER, JR., Commanding Officer, U.S. Naval Medical School, Bethesda;
Mr. JOHN T. STRINGER, JR., Medical photographer;
JAMES H. EBERSOLE;

LLOYD E. RAIHS;
J. G. RUDNICKI;
PAUL K. O'CONNOR;
J. C. JENKINS;
JERROL F. CRESSTER;
EDWARD F. REED;
JAMES METZLER.

They specify that others "entered the autopsy room" and note "Lt. Cmdr. GREGG CROSS and Captain DAVID OSBORNE, Chief of Surgery"; "Major General WEHL, Commanding Officer of the U.S. Military District, Washington, D.C."; "AMC CHESTER H. BOYERS, U.S. Navy ... to type receipts given by FBI and Secret Service for items obtained" (and do not look for these receipts or the itemizations, for they are suppressed from the Report and the printed evidence); these four employees of Gawler's funeral home, "JOHN VAN HASEN, EDWIN STROBLE, THOMAS ROBINSON and Mr. HAGEN"; "Brigadier General GODFREY McHUGH, Air Force Aide to the President, was also present, as was Dr. GEORGE BAKEMAN, U.S. Navy."

From this, once it is dredged from the official swamp of the suppressed documents, we know that there were not fewer than 23 additional witnesses at the autopsy.

There remained, after Specter finished adducing testimony, the most basic questions about the autopsy, unresolved conflicts and a considerable number of them glossed over. There remained unasked questions and unsought answers, both without justification or excuse.

But not one of these 23 military men, almost all with medical backgrounds and competences, was called as a witness.

There remained the official confusion about the location of the non-fatal injury in the rear of the President's body. Here were 23 more experts who could have provided enlightenment and answers.

They were not called, the answers not sought.

This does not encourage belief that they would have testified in consonance with the official account, that this was a neck wound. Nor does it suggest that the omission of the pictures and X-rays of the autopsy is only in deference to the feelings of the survivors. They were expunged from the record, whereas in any tank-town legal proceeding they would have been required. Anyway, this, the "best evidence" of the autopsy, could have been in evidence and examined but not published.

In his testimony, Dr. Humes said that, although it was "redundant", he did not really know that a tracheotomy had been performed in Dallas and that he phoned Dr. Perry the morning of November 23 - not the night of November 22 while he was conducting the autopsy examination - to find out (WHITEWASH 180).

Sibert and O'Neill also were never called as witnesses. If there was no other reason for it - and there were many, all of which could have made the official verdict more difficult, if not impossible, to render - this language, from the third page of their report, had to be suppressed or the question of perjury had to be faced:

Following the removal of the wrapping of the President's body, it was ascertained that ... a tracheotomy had been performed, as well as surgery of the head area, namely, in the top of the skull.

The question of this "surgery of the head area", nowhere mentioned in the testimony, may remain a mystery. It is not a mystery that these agents, unable to spell proper names, knew that "a tracheotomy had been performed". That, and the correct spelling of the uncommon medical term, they could have learned only from the doctors.

Harwood's sources in the Department of Justice palmed off on him, and he and the Post accepted, a false explanation of the discrepancies between the FBI reports of December 9 and January 13 and the autopsy protocol. They blamed it on the absence of the FBI agents from the autopsy room and called what was accurately reported and observed "hearsay". This is the source of the still-accepted fiction.

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RESULTS OF AUTOPSY ON JOHN F. KENNEDY

On November 23, 1963, an autopsy was performed on the body of former President JOHN F. KENNEDY at the National Naval Medical Center, Bethesda, Maryland. A total body X-ray and autopsy revealed one bullet hole located just below shoulders to right of spinal column and hand-probing indicated trajectory at angle of 45 to 60 degrees downward and hole of short depth with no point of exit. No bullet located in body.

A second bullet entered back of head and thereafter emerged through top of skull. Two metal fragments removed from brain area, the first 7 x 2 millimeters and the other 3 by 1 millimeters in size.

The above two metal fragments were turned over to Agents of the FBI for delivery to the FBI Laboratory.

A piece of skull measuring 10 by 6.5 centimeters had been flown in to Bethesda from Dallas hospital and this disclosed minute metal fragments where bullet emerged from skull.

With respect to the bullet hole located in the back, pathologist at National Naval Medical Center was of the opinion this bullet worked its way out of the victim's back during cardiac massage performed at Dallas hospital prior to transportation of the body to Washington.

With respect to this situation, it is noted that Secret Service Agent RICHARD JOHNSON turned over to the FBI Laboratory one 6.5 millimeter rifle bullet (approximately .25 caliber), copper alloy, full jacket, which he advised was found on a stretcher in the emergency room of the Dallas hospital to which the victim was taken. JOHNSON was unable to advise whether stretcher on which this bullet was found had been used for the President.

The above information was received by communication from the Baltimore Office, dated November 23, 1963.

149

This is what FBI Agents Sibert and O'Neill reported on the day after the autopsy, one day before the final autopsy report was completed. While they were reporting the fact that no outlet for the back wound could be found at the autopsy, Dr. Humes was learning (for the first time, he says) that there was a bullet wound in the front of the neck that had to be accounted for. (The first line of this communication is in error. The autopsy was conducted on the evening of November 22.) See p. 76.

Date 11/23/63

At approximately 3 p.m. on November 22, 1963, following the President's announced assassination, it was ascertained that Air Force One, the President's jet, was returning from Love Field, Dallas, Texas, flying the body back to Andrews Air Force Base, Camp Springs, Maryland. SAs FRANCIS X. O'NEILL, JR. and JAMES W. SIBERT proceeded to Andrews Air Force Base to handle any matters which would fall within the jurisdiction of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, inasmuch as it was anticipated that a large group of both military and civilian personnel assigned to the Base would congregate at Base Operations to witness the landing of this flight.

Lt. Col. ROBERT T. BEST, Director of Law Enforcement and Security, advised the President's plane would arrive at 5:25 p.m. Subsequently, Col. BEST advised that the plane would arrive at 6:05 p.m.

At approximately 5:55 p.m. agents were advised through the Hyattsville Resident Agency that the Bureau had instructed that the agents accompany the body to the National Naval Medical Center, Bethesda, Maryland, to stay with the body and to obtain bullets reportedly in the President's body.

Immediately agents contacted Mr. JAMES ROWLEY, the Director of the U. S. Secret Service, identified themselves and made Mr. ROWLEY aware of our aforementioned instruction. Immediately following the plane's landing, Mr. ROWLEY arranged seating for Bureau agents in the third car of the White House motorcade which followed the ambulance containing the President's body to the Naval Medical Center, Bethesda, Maryland.

On arrival at the Medical Center, the ambulance stopped in front of the main entrance, at which time Mrs. JACQUELINE KENNEDY and Attorney General ROBERT KENNEDY embarked from the ambulance and entered the building. The ambulance was thereafter driven around to the rear entrance where the President's body was removed and taken into an autopsy room. Bureau agents assisted in the moving of the casket to the autopsy room. A tight security was immediately placed around the autopsy room by the Naval facility and the U. S. Secret Service. Bureau agents made contact with Mr. ROY KELLERMAN, the Assistant Secret Service Agent in Charge of the White House Motorcade, and advised him of the Bureau's interest in this matter.

On 11/22/63 at Bethesda, Maryland File # 65-30
by SAs FRANCIS X. O'NEILL, JR.; JAMES W. SIBERT : GTP Date dictated 11/26/63

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

This is Sibert and O'Neill's report on their observation of the autopsy. It was not published by the Commission, and is contradictory of many vital elements of the official case. See pp. 24, 42.

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Date 11/26/63

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erest in this matter.

89-30

dictated 11/26/63

the property of the FBI and is loaned to

of the autopsy. It was not
vital elements of the official

BA 89-30
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2

He advised that he had already received instructions from
Director ROWLEY as to the presence of Bureau agents. He
will be noted that aforementioned Bureau agents, Mr. ROY
KOLLERMAN, Mr. WILLIAM CRUER and Mr. WILLIAM O'LEARY, Secret
Service agents, were the only personnel other than medical
personnel present during the autopsy.

The following individuals attended the autopsy:

Adm. C. B. HOLLOWAY, U. S. Navy, Commanding Officer
of the U. S. Naval Medical Center, Bethesda;

Adm. BENTLEY, U. S. Navy, the President's personal
physician;

Commander JAMES J. HUNES, Chief Pathologist, Bethesda
Naval Hospital, who conducted autopsy;

Capt. JAMES H. STONER, JR., Commanding Officer, U. S.
Naval Medical School, Bethesda;

Mr. JOHN T. STRINGER, JR., Medical photographer;

JAMES H. IBERSOLE;

LLOYD E. RAINE;

J. T. BOZWELL;

J. G. RUDNICKI;

PAUL K. O'CONNOR;

J. C. JENKINS;

JERROL F. CRESTER;

EDWARD F. REED;

JAMES NETZLER.

During the course of the autopsy, Lt. Col. P. FINCK, U. S.
Army Armed Forces Institute of Pathology, arrived to assist
Commander HUNES in the autopsy. In addition, Lt. Cmdr.
GREGG CROSS and Captain DAVID OSGORNE, Chief of Surgery,
entered the autopsy room.

Major General WEHLE, Commanding Officer of U. S. Military
District, Washington, D.C., entered the autopsy room to
ascertain from the Secret Service arrangements concerning the

Note the extensive list of military personnel present at the autopsy. In fact, the
only civilians allowed in the room were the FBI and Secret Service agents. With all
the doubts surrounding the autopsy and the nature and location of the wounds, only
three of the medical personnel in attendance were called to testify before the Commis-
sion. The failure to call Dr. Burkley (here misspelled "BENTLEY") is particularly
significant since he was in the motorcade during the assassination, present with the
President at Parkland Hospital, in attendance at the autopsy, certified that the Pres-
ident was shot in the back, and transmitted the missing autopsy notes to the Secret
Service. An obviously vital witness, he is not even mentioned in the Report. See
Chapter 28.

LA 89-30
FXO/WS:drl

Transportation of the President's body back to the Navy, and
JAMES C. HARRIS, U. S. Navy, witnessed the autopsy and
during the final stages of such to type receipts given by FBI
and Secret Service for items obtained.

At the termination of the autopsy, the following personnel
from Sawler's Funeral Home entered the autopsy room to
prepare the President's body for burial:

JOHN VAN HASSEN
EDWIN STROBLE
THOMAS ROBINSON
Mr. HAGEN

Brigadier General GODFREY McHUGH, Air Force Military Staff,
to the President, was also present, as was Dr. GEORGE BALLMAN,
U. S. Navy.

Arrangements were made for the performance of the autopsy
by the U. S. Navy and Secret Service.

The President's body was removed from the casket in which it
had been transported and was placed on the autopsy table, at
which time the complete body was wrapped in a sheet and the
head area contained an additional wrapping which was saturated
with blood. Following the removal of the wrapping, it was
ascertained that the President's clothing had been removed
and it was also apparent that a tracheotomy had been performed,
as well as surgery of the head area, namely, in the top of
the skull. All personnel with the exception of medical
officers needed in the taking of photographs and X-Rays were
requested to leave the autopsy room and remain in an adjacent
room.

Upon completion of X-Rays and photographs, the first incision
was made at 8:15 p.m. X-Rays of the brain area which were
developed and returned to the autopsy room disclosed a path
of a missile which appeared to enter the back of the skull
and the path of the disintegrated fragments could be observed
along the right side of the skull. The largest section of
this missile as portrayed by X-Ray appeared to be behind the
right frontal sinus. The next largest fragment appeared to
be at the rear of the skull at the juncture of the skull bone.

The Chief Pathologist advised approximately 40 particles of
disintegrated bullet and smudges indicated that the projectile
had fragmented while passing through the skull region.

Nowhere is there an explanation of why it was "apparent" that "surgery of the head
area" had occurred, a falsehood. The Commission sought no explanation. Nor was the
Commission interested in ascertaining how these FBI agents could know it was "apparent
that a tracheotomy had been performed" when Humes' story is that he had to wait until
the following day to learn that.

LA 89-30
FXO/WS:drl
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Dallas, Texas.
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Sibert and O'Neill, line al
first reported it was too t
doctors were later to i p
autopsy is characterized by
opening per or to occur
the wound?

BA 99-30
FXO/JWS:dfl
4

During the autopsy inspection of the area of the brain, two fragments of metal were removed by Dr. KUMBS, namely, one fragment measuring 7 x 2 millimeters, which was removed from the right side of the brain. An additional fragment of metal measuring 1 x 3 millimeters was also removed from this area, both of which were placed in a glass jar containing a black metal top which were thereafter marked for identification and following the signing of a proper receipt were transported by Bureau agents to the FBI Laboratory.

During the latter stages of this autopsy, Dr. KUMBS located an opening which appeared to be a bullet hole which was below the shoulders and two inches to the right of the middle line of the spinal column.

This opening was probed by Dr. KUMBS with the finger, at which time it was determined that the trajectory of the missile entering at this point had entered at a downward position of 45 to 60 degrees. Further probing determined that the distance travelled by this missile was a short distance inasmuch as the end of the opening could be felt with the finger.

Inasmuch as no complete bullet of any size could be located in the brain area and likewise no bullet could be located in the back or any other area of the body as determined by usual body X-Rays and inspection revealing there was no point of exit, the individuals performing the autopsy were at a loss to explain why they could find no bullets.

A call was made by Bureau agents to the Firearms Section of the FBI Laboratory, at which time SA CHARLES E. HANCOCK advised that the Laboratory had received through Agent RICHARD JOHNSON a bullet which had reportedly been found on a stretcher in the emergency room of Parkland Hospital, Dallas, Texas. This stretcher had also contained a microscope and pair of rubber gloves. Agent JOHNSON had advised the Laboratory that it had not been determined whether or not this was the stretcher which had been used to transport the body of President KENNEDY. Agent HANCOCK further stated that this bullet as pertaining to a 0.5 millimeter rifle which would be approximately a 25 caliber rifle and that this bullet consisted of a copper alloy full jacket.

Immediately following receipt of this information, same was made available to Dr. KUMBS who advised that in his opinion this accounted for no bullet being located when they entered

534

Back to the main text:
The autopsy was conducted by Dr. KUMBS, who was given the receipts given by FBI

Following personnel:
autopsy room to
1:

Force Military Aid,
was Dr. GEORGE BULLOCK,

Entrance of the autopsy
room.

The casket in which the
the autopsy table, as
in a sheet and the
ring which was saturated
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body had been removed,
only, in the top of
option of medical
graphs and X-Rays were
remain in an adjacent

As the first incision
in area which were
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back of the skull
could be observed.
Largest section of
and to be behind the
fragment appeared to
ture of the skull bone.

Only 40 particles of
red that the projectile
the skull region.

that "surgery of the head
no explanation. Nor was the
doctors were later to represent. The thoroughly unprofessional nature of the
autopsy is characterized by the fact that the finger into the tiny back wound, an
opening purports to measure 7 by 4 mm. Is it better way to destroy the character of
the wound?

Sibert and O'Neill, like all the other witnesses who saw the rear non-fatal wound,
first reported it was located in the patient's back, not in his neck as the autopsy
doctors were later to represent. The thoroughly unprofessional nature of the
autopsy is characterized by the fact that the finger into the tiny back wound, an
opening purports to measure 7 by 4 mm. Is it better way to destroy the character of
the wound?

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5

the back region and that since external cardiac massage had been performed at Parkland Hospital, it was entirely possible that through such movement the bullet had worked its way back out of the point of entry and had fallen on the stretcher.

Also during the latter stages of the autopsy, a piece of the skull measuring 10 x 6.5 centimeters was brought to Dr. HUMES who was instructed that this had been removed from the President's skull. Immediately this section of skull was X-Rayed, at which time it was determined by Dr. HUMES that one corner of this section revealed minute metal particles and inspection of this same area disclosed a chipping of the top portion of this piece, both of which indicated that this had been the point of exit of the bullet entering the skull region.

On the basis of the latter two developments, Dr. HUMES stated that the pattern was clear that the one bullet had entered the President's back and had worked its way out of the body during external cardiac massage and that a second high velocity bullet had entered the rear of the skull and had fragmented prior to exit through the top of the skull. He further pointed out that X-Rays had disclosed numerous fractures in the cranial area which he attributed to the force generated by the impact of the bullet in its passage through the brain area. He attributed the death of the President to a gunshot wound in the head.

The following is a complete listing of photographs and X-Rays taken by the medical authorities of the President's body. They were turned over to Mr. ROY KELLERMAN of the Secret Service. X-Rays were developed by the hospital, however, the photographs were delivered to Secret Service undeveloped:

- 11 X-Rays
- 22 4 x 5 color photographs
- 18 4 x 5 black and white photographs
- 1 roll of 120 film containing five exposures

Mr. KELLERMAN stated these items could be made available to the FBI upon request. The portion of the skull measuring 10 x 6.5 centimeters was maintained in the custody of Dr. HUMES who stated that it also could be made available for further examination. The two metal fragments removed from the brain area were hand carried by SAs SILBERT and O'NEILL to the FBI Laboratory immediately following the autopsy and were turned over to SA KURT FRAZIER.

The Commission's published record nowhere reflects that Dr. Humes felt it "clear" as of the night of the autopsy that the bullet entering the back had not exited. Instead, the report asserts that Humes fully traced the bullet path through to the front of the neck and had his hypothesis "confirmed" when he learned of the front neck wound the next day from Dr. Perry. "Further exploration during the autopsy disproved that theory" of a short penetration by the bullet in the back (RHS). The authors of the Report had to know this was false, and perhaps this is why Silbert and O'Neill were never called to testify.

Note also Kellerman's assurance that the pictures and x-rays were available to the FBI, contrary to the official fiction.

AS:mln

TO: Mr. J. L.
FROM: Arlen Sp
SUBJECT: Interview

On March
O'Neill and James
to 10:45 a.m.

SA O'Neill
substantial effort.
Kennedy's body to
entered the back of
by both Cozzani
been forced out of
external heart area
SA Silbert called
that a bullet had
Silbert relayed the

SA O'Neill
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could exclusively
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the bullet as the
during the autopsy
which he destroyed
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expressed the theory
external heart area
the presence of the

I also
interviews of SA
report which Kell

SAs Silbert
and Cozzani formally
at the autopsy. SA
note on Kellerman's
and also that the

Although the Commission
the record. From the
them. See pp. 76ff.

AS:mln

MEMORANDUM

March 12, 1964

TO: Mr. J. Lee Rankin
FROM: Arlen Specter
SUBJECT: Interview of FBI Agents Present at Autopsy

On March 12, 1964, I interviewed Special Agents Francis X. O'Neill and James W. Sibert in my office from approximately 12:00 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.

SA O'Neill and SA Sibert advised that the autopsy surgeons made substantial efforts to determine if there was a missile in President Kennedy's body to explain what happened to the bullet which apparently entered the back of his body. They stated that the opinion was expressed by both Commander Humes and Lt. Col. Finck that the bullet might have been forced out of the back of the President's body upon application of external heart massage. They stated that this theory was advanced after SA Sibert called the FBI Laboratory and talked to SA Killian who advised that a bullet had been found on a stretcher at Parkland Hospital. SA Sibert relayed that information to the doctors.

SA O'Neill and Sibert advised that they did not recall any discussion of the theory that the bullet might have been forced out of the body by external cardiac massage until after SA Sibert reported the finding of the bullet on the stretcher; however, neither agent could exclusively rule out the possibility that such a hypothesis was advanced prior to that time, but each expressed the opinion that he thought that theory was expressed after information was obtained about the bullet on the stretcher. SA Sibert advised that he made no notes during the autopsy. SA O'Neill stated that he made only a few notes, which he destroyed after his report was dictated. SA O'Neill advised that he is sure that his notes would not have shown when the doctors expressed the thought that the bullet might have been forced out by external heart massage, in relation to the time that they learned of the presence of the bullet on the Parkland Hospital stretcher.

I also questioned SA Sibert and SA O'Neill about their interviews of SAAS Kellerman and SA Greer on the portions of the FBI report which Kellerman and Greer have repudiated.

SAs Sibert and O'Neill stated that they interviewed SAs Kellerman and Greer formally on November 27, 1963, and talked to them only informally at the autopsy. SA O'Neill stated that he is certain that he had a verbatim note on Kellerman's statement that the President said "Get me to a hospital" and also that Mrs. Kennedy said "Oh, no." SA O'Neill stated that he was

Although the Commission never spoke to Sibert and O'Neill, Arlen Specter did---off the record. From the unpublished files, this is his account of his conversation with them. See pp. 76ff.

Exhibit E

Xerox of official
death certificate

Published in
Post mortem

CERTIFICATE OF DEATH
REVISION N (45-1, 9-56) (300)

COPY

The White House, Washington, D.C.

President John Fitzgerald Kennedy

President of the United States

☐ Male ☐ Female ☐ Unknown ☐ None

NA NA NA NA Brookline, Massachusetts

May 29, 1917

16 years 6 months

Catholic

Blue

Auburn

Ruddy

72"

72

10. MARKS AND SCARS (Noted on death record)

4" scar 2nd, 3rd and 4th lumbar spine
4" scar upper left leg, well healed

12. NEXT OF KIN (Name, relationship, age and address)

Mrs. John Fitzgerald Kennedy, The White House, Washington, D.C.

13. PLACE OF DEATH (Name, address, city, state and zip code)

The White House, Washington, D.C.

14. PLACE OF BIRTH

Parkland Memorial Hospital, Dallas, Texas

November 22, 1963

15. I. DISEASE OR CONDITION DIRECTLY LEADING TO DEATH (This does not mean the cause of death, but the condition which caused death)

Gunshot wound, skull

16. ANTICIPANT CAUSES (Marked conditions, if any giving rise to above cause (a), stating the underlying cause last)

End to 16

17. OTHER DISEASES OR CONDITIONS (Conditions which may be death but not related to the cause of death)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100
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This is the front side of the one-page death certificate executed by the President's physician, Admiral Burkley. Its existence was known to the Commission, which had copies of the receipts for its transmittal to the Secret Service. However, the Commission never asked for and never received a copy. The official certificate of death would seem to be fundamental to any investigation of a murder, but not so far as the Warren Commission was concerned. Had the Commission put this certificate in its record, it could not have written the Report, as the next page makes clear.

John Fitzgerald Kennedy

President John Fitzgerald Kennedy, while riding in the motorcade in Dallas, Texas, on November 22, 1963, and at approximately 12:30 p.m., was struck by one bullet and an assassin's bullet and a second wound occurred in the posterior back at about the level of the third thoracic vertebra. The wound was scattering in type causing fragmentation of the skull and evulsion of three particles of the skull at time of impact, with resulting maceration of the right hemisphere of the brain. The President was rushed to Parkland Memorial Hospital, and was immediately placed under the care of a team of physicians at the hospital under the direction of Dr. James H. Hodge, Jr. Dr. Clark arrived at the hospital approximately five minutes after the President and immediately went to the emergency room. It was evident that the wound was of such severity that it was bound to be fatal. Breathing was noted at the time of arrival at the hospital by several members of the Secret Service. Emergency measures were employed immediately including intravenous fluids and blood. The President was pronounced dead at 1:00 p.m. by Dr. Clark and was verified by me.

To the White House, Washington, D.C.

DATE SIGNED November 23, 1963

SIGNATURE

George Gregory Burkley

Physician in Charge, Parkland Memorial Hospital

WITNESSED BY COURT OF INQUIRY OR BOARD OF INVESTIGATION

DATE

(all of will not)

SIGNATURE

Commanding Officer

COPY

This is the reverse side of the Certificate of Death wherein Admiral Burkley, present at the autopsy, reports with assurance and precision that the President had received a wound "in the posterior back at about the level of the third thoracic vertebra." It is significant that Burkley provided this description on November 23, for it was not until the following day, the 24th, that he saw and "verified" Dr. Boswell's similar locating of the wound on a body chart, reproduced at p. 310. For a depiction of the

Exhibit F

pp. 196-197 from

Whitewash

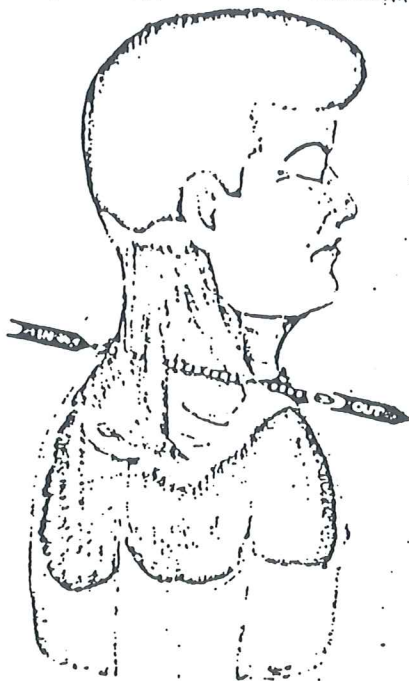
by Harold
Weisberg

p. 312 from

Post Mortem

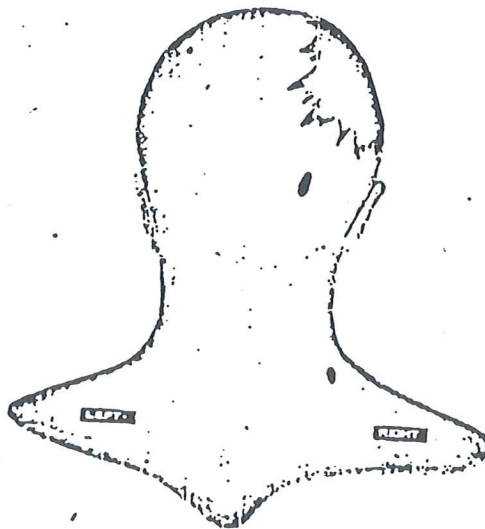
by Harold
Weisberg

APPENDIX



COMMISSION EXHIBIT 385

These are the "artist's representation of the President's wounds. Compare them with the autopsy chart on the opposite page, which clearly shows that the rear wound was in the back, not the neck. The FBI report also locates this wound in the back (see page 195) and gives not this flat angle but one of 45 to 60 degrees.



COMMISSION EXHIBIT 886

AUTOPSY DESCRIPTIVE SHEET

KHS PATH-9 (1-53)

AUTOPSY

DATE 11-21-68 HR. STARTED 10:00 AM HR. COMPLETED 11:00 AM

NAME: _____ RANK/RATE _____

DATE/HOUR EXPIRED: _____ WARD _____ DIAGNOSIS _____

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: RACE: _____ Obtain following on babies only:

Height _____ in. Weight _____ lb. Hair _____ Color _____

Color eyes _____ Pupils _____ mm, Lb. _____ mm Crown-rump _____ in.

WEIGHTS: (Gross, unless otherwise specified) Circumference _____ in. (Chest) _____ in.

HEAD _____ in. Abd. _____ in.

LUNG, RT. 5-330 KIDNEY, RT. 1375 ADRENALS, RT. _____

LUNG, LT. 2-290 KIDNEY, LT. 140 ADRENALS, LT. _____

BRAIN _____ LIVER 150 PANCREAS _____

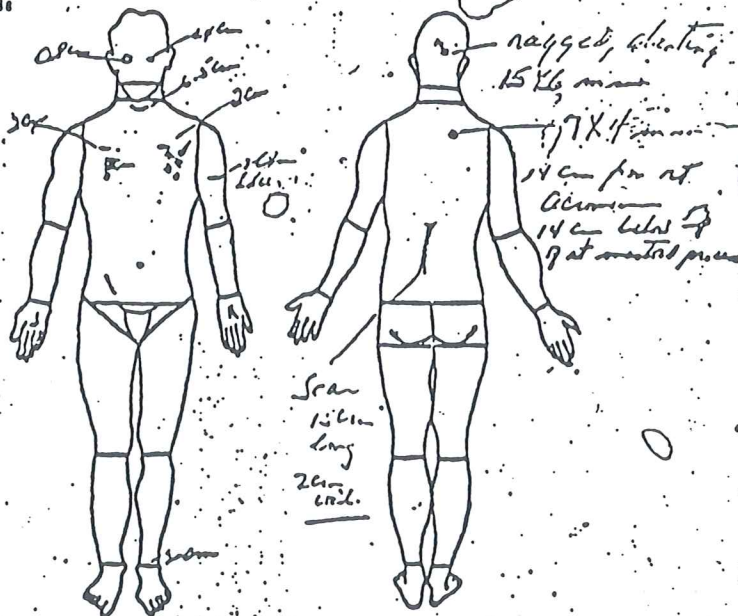
SPLEEN 90 HEART 130 THYROID _____

TESTES _____ OVARY _____

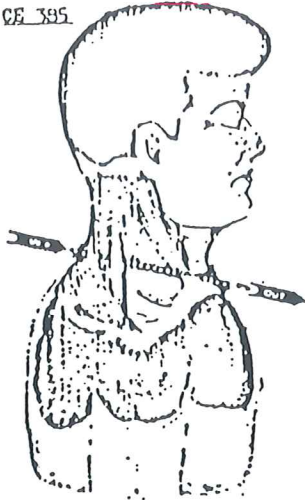
HEART MEASUREMENTS: A 7.5 cm. P 9 cm. R 12 cm. M 18 cm.

LVM 1.5 cm. RV 4 cm.

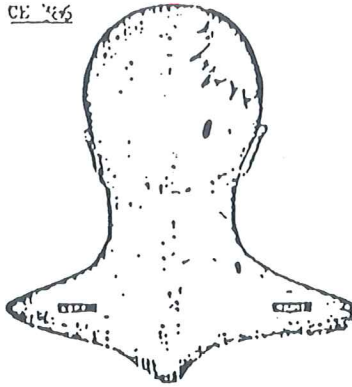
NOTES:



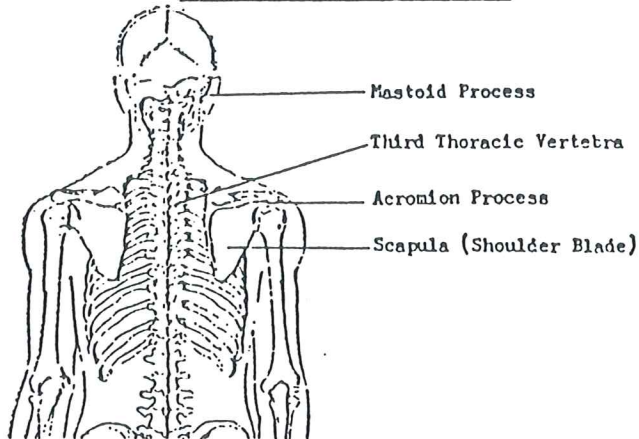
CE 385



CE 386



ADULT MALE SKELETON, REAR VIEW



Knowing the Commission would not put the autopsy pictures in its record, the doctors had drawings made to depict the President's wounds. CE's 385 and 386 were prepared in March 1964 under Humes' supervision. These illustrations deliberately misrepresent the back wound as a neck wound, a discrepancy of which the doctors and the Commissioners had to be aware. Burkley and Boswell had originally located the back wound at the level of the third thoracic vertebra, depicted on the skeletal chart here. The wound in the neck depicted in CE 385 is markedly higher than the third thoracic vertebra. The immediate significance of this information is that a bullet entering the back at the third thoracic vertebra and traveling at a downward angle could not emerge at the front of the throat, thus proving the autopsy report and the Warren Report wrong.

p.266 from Post Mortemby Harold
Weisberg

Memorial Hospital, Dallas, Texas."

The next paragraph says no more than that the summary was "prepared by the statements of several physicians". These statements were submitted to the Commission and published by it. The third paragraph explains why three copies were kept locally. And the conclusion is an expression of condolences.

That this was eliminated in favor of an inaccurate statement that has been snipped up first, was irrelevant and its antecedents hidden, is a simplistic example of the kind of investigation this was, with hiding so much the norm that it was done without sense or reason, even when there was nothing to be hidden.

If this is innocence, here innocence ends. That "lost" FBI receipt withheld from me for more than three years during which its existence was repeatedly denied, that receipt missing from the Commission's files and not mentioned or addressed in all its work, is a receipt for the non-existent. It also leaves without a receipt what does exist. The poor Xerox copy of unknown generation reads, in full:

22 November 1963

From: Francis X. O'NEILL, Jr., Agent FBI
James W. SIBERT, Agent FBI

To: Captain J. H. STOVER, Jr., Commanding Officer, U. S. Naval Medical School, National Naval Medical Center, Bethesda, Maryland

1. We hereby acknowledge receipt of a missile removed by Commander James J. HUNTER, MC, USN on this date.

Francis X. O'Neill, Jr.
Francis X. O'NEILL, Jr.
James W. Sibert
James W. SIBERT

Now, it happens that the official version is built around the claim that no "missile" was recovered from the body.

I got this receipt from the Secret Service. I asked the Archivist to see the "missile" it covered, he being the official custodian of all the records and his agency the legal inheritor of the Warren Commission's records. He suggested "CE843 consists of bullet fragments recovered during the autopsy, and there is information concerning a receipt given for these fragments by the FBI on page 284 of CD 7 and page 4 of CE387. We can show you this exhibit in the National Archives. We have no other information relating to a missile recovered during the autopsy."

His first reference is to the Sibert-O'Neill report, which has fascinated me since I discovered it in the spring of 1966. The reader is already familiar with this report and the various FBI interpretations of it. CE387 is the typed version of the autopsy report (16H978-83).

"Fragments" is accurate, but misleading. In CE843 supposedly two tiny particles of metal are stored on cotton in a small plastic container. The Commission published a picture, with the container lid removed (17H841). The published exhibit list (17HXXIII) also says two. But the picture seems to show three.

p. 195 from
Whitewash

by Harold Weisberg

there any other explanation to probe this wound exist?

ie FBI reports when they their task required? s consistent with the its energy in distance It was of World War II ; sixth-floor window to "high velocity" pro- rt and by the Commis-

minor significance com- Commission's staff and events in a way more o rewrite history for explain.

d to have been the path e Report, entered the

front, near the Adam's an 45 degrees and could ither, tells the truth? onary, to employ a scedented and impossi- rough both the Presi- nor's shattered wrist irection. The Report missile that could at ld so in defiance of cown and misrepres-

ie truly magical powers lent and undependable Report does not claim id the President's body and rend his flesh. report that did not go in it is not the bul- . Nor can it possibly thorax, in the front governor and the presi- "shot, not the ex- that did not go any-

ded in the front by a his FBI report is to- ront and back. Nothing

by how many people ons. But one thing assassin, Oswald or acy - to kill the

investigations and

se strange doings, ys and so many revis-

tual rather than an

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lre and their unpre-

Why there were the telephone calls from the Naval Hospital to Dallas?

And, above all, why the photographs and X-rays and the spectro- graphic analysis are not only not in the twenty-six volumes appended to the Report, but are not even exhibits in the Commission's records?

Are these really questions?

Is there, in fact, now any basic question other than who the assassins are?

And have we anything less than the most odious event in our national history?

Excerpts from the FBI report

I. THE ASSASSINATION

President John Fitzgerald Kennedy was assassinated in Dallas, Texas, at approximately 12:29 p.m. (CST) on November 22, 1963.

At the time, the President was en route from Love Field to the Trade Mart in Dallas to address a luncheon sponsored by several civic groups. Among those in the motorcade with the President were

Street (Exhibit 1), three shots rang out. Two bullets struck President Kennedy, and one wounded Governor Connally. The President, who slumped forward in the car, was rushed to Parkland

Immediately after President Kennedy and Governor Connally were admitted to Parkland Memorial Hospital, a bullet was found on one of the stretchers. Medical examination of the President's body revealed that one of the bullets had entered just below his shoulder to the right of the spinal column at an angle of 45 to 60 degrees downward, that there was no point of exit, and that the bullet was not in the body. An examination of this bullet by the FBI Laboratory determined that it had been fired from the rifle owned by Oswald. (Exhibit 23)

Exhibit I

first 4 pages of Affidavit
filed by James T. Tague
July 11, 1977.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Civil Action No. 75-226

AFFIDAVIT OF JAMES T. TAGUE

1. My name is James T. Tague. I live at 14324 Shoredale Lane, Dallas, Texas. I am the Fleet Sales Manager of Steakley Chevrolet, Inc., at 6411 East Northwest Highway, Dallas, Texas, an automobile dealership which employs over 200 people.

2. I am the bystander mentioned in the Warren Commission Report as having received a minor wound in the shooting that killed President John Kennedy and seriously wounded then Texas Governor John Connally.

3. The place at which the assassination occurred is known as Dealy Plaza. It is bounded on the north by Elm Street, on the south by Commerce Street, with Main Street between them. At that time, Elm Street was a one-way street headed west and Commerce Street was a one-way street headed east. These three streets flow together at the west end of Dealy Plaza at what is known as the "Triple Underpass," formed by bridges and an excavation to permit traffic to flow underneath the wide railroad tracks.

4. At shortly before 12:30 p.m., Dallas time, on November 22, 1963, I was driving east on Commerce Street, in the northern (left) lane. As I was about to emerge from under the triple underpass, I was blocked by stopped traffic. I left my car and was standing on the north side of Commerce Street between Commerce Street and Main Street, when the Presidential motorcade was going west on Elm Street.

5. As the motorcade came down Elm Street, I heard a noise that at first, sounded like an exploding firecracker. As I was looking around Dealy Plaza, trying to determine what it was that I had heard, I heard the sounds of the second and third shots. I saw people throwing themselves to the ground. I reacted by stepping behind a pillar of the

Triple Underpass. As I emerged from behind this pillar, a man, whom I later determined to be Deputy Sheriff Eddy R. "Buddy" Walthers, ran up to me and asked me if I had seen what had happened. After I told him that I did not know what had happened, we walked to where a small crowd had gathered around a motorcycle policeman. A man was exclaiming, "His head exploded! His head exploded! The President's head exploded!" At this point, Deputy Sheriff Buddy Walthers said that I had blood on my cheek. It was at this time that I remembered something had stung me on my cheek during the shooting. We walked back toward the place I had been standing. When we were approximately 30 to 40 feet from this point, Mr. Walthers exclaimed, "Look there, on the curb." There was a very fresh mark on the curb, which appeared to have been caused by a bullet. I recall that other officers came up and inspected this impact point. I recall that the motorcycle policeman called in on his police radio the fact that I had received a slight wound. I was then sent to the Homicide Section of the Dallas Police Department to give my statement. A homicide officer, whose name I do not recall, took my statement.

6. While this officer was taking my statement, Lee Harvey Oswald was brought into the adjoining cubicle, where there were many other police officers.

7. Since then, I have never seen the statement prepared by this homicide officer.

8. I later learned that on November 23, 1963, Deputy Sheriff Walthers took two photographers to the spot where I had been standing in Dealy Plaza and they photographed the curbstone, showing the point of impact from which I was wounded.

9. I now am not certain whether it was a fragment of bullet or a fragment of concrete that sprayed from the impact that caused my minor wound.

10. Because this was an event of some importance, I made some notes at that time, thinking that in the future, they might be of some interest to my children. I have also saved a few news stories.

11. I thought it was strange that with an extensive official investigation going on, that no FBI agent ever spoke to me when the fact of my minor wound was on the police radio and in police reports and when a picture of the impact on the curbstone had been printed in Dallas newspapers. A copy of one that I preserved is attached as Exhibit "A". This is one of the photographs taken on November 23, 1963 by Tom Dillard, of the Dallas Morning News.

12. The next month, on December 13, 1963, after a news story headlined "Questions Raised on Murder Bullets" appeared in the Dallas Morning News I phoned the FBI. It then interviewed me the following day.

13. This news account goes into a question that perplexed me, in addition to the lack of official interest in a first-person account of some of the firing during the assassination. It is with President Kennedy's having received a fatal wound and a non-fatal wound and Governor Connally's having been wounded in three different parts of his body and with only three shots fired, what caused my wound when I was twice as far from the place the shots were said to have come from as the Presidential car was?

14. Because of the manner in which I preserved this news account, it did not keep in good condition. I have asked my wife to retype it, and her retyped copy and a photostat of the news story are attached herein as Exhibit "B".

15. While there are these and other news accounts, my own notes of the time and the FBI account of its interview with me all refer to a chipping of the curbstone, I now have no independent recollection of a chipped point. I am absolutely without doubt that there was a very visible mark and that Deputy Sheriff Walthers saw it from a distance.

16. All accounts are as this news story expressed it, "freshly made."

17. Harold Weisberg showed me a copy of the FBI's account of its December 14, 1963, interview with me on June 10, 1977. A copy of this report is attached, marked Exhibit "C". A sentence in it that refers to this and to what I then said about it reads, "He did look around

the curb and near where he was standing, there was a chip missing, which he stated looked fresh."

18. Mr. Weisberg has also shown me another two-page document, identified as Pages 32 and 33 of CR 1245. It is not dated. It purports to be what a Dallas Times Herald reporter named Jim Lehrer told FBI Agent Alfred C. Ellington. The initials at the top are "RPG". Mr. Weisberg has informed me that these are the initials of a since-retired agent, Robert P. Gamberling, who compiled and rewrote reports in the FBI's Dallas Field Office.

19. This document, attached as Exhibit "D", appears to be about twice as long as the FBI report that is Exhibit "C". I note that it contains no mention of any evidence of the shooting in the assassination and appears to be an effort to attack my credibility, without so stating. While it refers to what is called "his story" it makes no mention of the information I gave the FBI earlier or of the many independent confirmations of it in current news accounts quoting police officials or to the statement the Dallas police took from me the afternoon of the day of the assassination.

20. Aside from being what I regard as a prejudicial account, the FBI never checked with me if there is inaccuracy, whether or not intended prejudicially, in describing me as a "used car salesman" in the third paragraph. I have had a 16-year career in new car sales and fleet sales management. My specialty is fleet sales throughout the United States and abroad. These range from the sale of fleets of vans that are bullet-proofed in Dallas and are sent throughout the United States as the vehicles of the Purolator Armored Car Service, to foreign orders in the hundreds, including some that because of domestic business conditions, were too large to be contracted profitably.

21. Mr. Lehrer's account of his interview with me appeared in the Dallas Times Herald of June 5, 1964. It is attached herein as Exhibit "E". It states nothing that is alleged in the RPG report, Exhibit "D"; suggests nothing of the sort; and, in fact, says exactly the opposite of my being a self-seeker, or a publicity seeker:

35. While after 13 years I am not certain about the nature of the visible point of impact on the curbstone, I am certain of the words of my testimony quoted in the Warren Report on this, "That there was a mark quite obviously that was a bullet, and it was very fresh."


JAMES T. TAGUE

CITY OF DALLAS
COUNTY OF DALLAS, TEXAS

Before me this 11 day of July, 1977,
deponent JAMES T. TAGUE has appeared and signed this affidavit, first
having sworn that the statements made therein are true.

My commission expires July 1978.


NOTARY PUBLIC IN AND FOR THE
COUNTY OF DALLAS, TEXAS

Exhibit J

SECRET SERVICE
PRESS RELEASE ON
Autopsy X-RAYS

from p. 555

Post Mortem

by H.

Weisberg

(Secret Service Statement on Pictures and X-rays)

Inquiries have been received concerning the handling and disposition by the Secret Service of certain X-ray and photographic films relating to the autopsy performed at the National Naval Medical Center, Bethesda, Maryland, in connection with the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

The X-ray films were used for the briefing of the Warren Commission's staff on the autopsy procedure and results. None of the films are presently in the possession of the Secret Service. Every item of tangible evidence which the Secret Service possessed relating to the assassination of President Kennedy was made available to the Warren Commission. All such evidence was either turned over to the Commission during its life, or turned over to the National Archives following the termination of the Commission's activities, or placed in the custody of individuals designated by the late President's family, as appropriate.

Truth succumbed to necessity after attention was focused on the deficiencies of the Presidential autopsy. Until a false pretense was officially decided upon, the lie that the Commission had never had access to the pictures and X-rays of the autopsy, the Secret Service told inquirers part of the truth, as in this statement. This particular Xeroxed copy was handed Paul Hoch, of Berkeley, Calif., at Secret Service headquarters in Washington by Special Agent Jack Warner on Tuesday, June 21, 1966. In acknowledging that "The X-ray films were used for the briefing" of the Commission's staff, the Secret Service failed to acknowledge the rest of the story, that it also used the pictures for the same purpose. Then-Inspector Tom Kelley showed them to Arlen Specter, as Specter admitted to Richard Whalen, biographer of Joseph P. Kennedy, and U.S. News and World Report (WHITEWASH II, pp. 105, 109). The last sentence is evasive and deceptive. The Secret Service gave copies to the National Archives, keeping originals. It was long after this statement was drafted and issued that I forced it to give the Archives one of the original copies of the autopsy, of which the Archives, until then, had none. Nor does this statement cite any legal authority for giving the property of the United States Government to "individuals designated by the late President's family as appropriate." What this language probably means is that a member of the family or someone designated to act for it "designated" one member, the late Robert F. Kennedy, as "appropriate".

Excerpt from 1/21/64

EXECUTIVE SESSION TRANSCRIPT

7693

that it would be had a page proof of obtained from the Public Printer for their examination. The General Counsel was thereupon instructed to make arrangements for delivery of such page proof to each of the Commissioners promptly upon receipt of the same from the Public Printer.

A Motion was made, seconded and carried that there be provided 100 copies of the Report and Hearings bound in buckram for the Commissioners to distribute as they may determine and that in addition 500 copies of just the Report be provided for such distribution.

A Motion was made, seconded and carried that leather bound copies of the Report and Hearings with the names of the proposed recipients typed on them in gold be provided for the President and such persons as might select, for members of the Kennedy family in accordance with the direction from the White House, and for the Commissioners.

A Motion was made, seconded and carried that one set of the Report and Hearings with the proposed recipient's name stamped in gold be furnished each of the staff members who have been with the Commission a substantial period of time in the work of the investigation and preparation of the Report.

of the Commissioners read this fake transcript so long after the student's life ended there was nothing he could have done. He would see that this and succeeding pages are selective paraphrases, not in transcription. It was in this way that Senator Russell's lions to the Report were arranged from the record.

EXCERPT FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION TRANSCRIPT OF 1/21/64

35

activities we are making to the FBI and the Secret Service and everybody else. We would like you to have that. That will give you a really good picture along with the synopsis you have as to what we think might be some further guidance in this further picture.

Is that the kind of thing, Senator Cooper, that you had in mind, would that be helpful?

Sen. Cooper. Yes, I know we have to finish the agenda but I thought after that even at this point, there have been questions raised in your own mind about --

Mr. McCloy. About direction.

Sen. Cooper. And in our own mind, I have one or two it might be well to discuss it.

Mr. McCloy. Let me ask you about this raw material business that is here. What does it consist of? Does it consist of the raw material of the autopsy? They talk about the colored photographs of the President's body -- do we have those?

Mr. Rankin. Yes, it is part of it, a small part of it.

Mr. McCloy. Are they here?

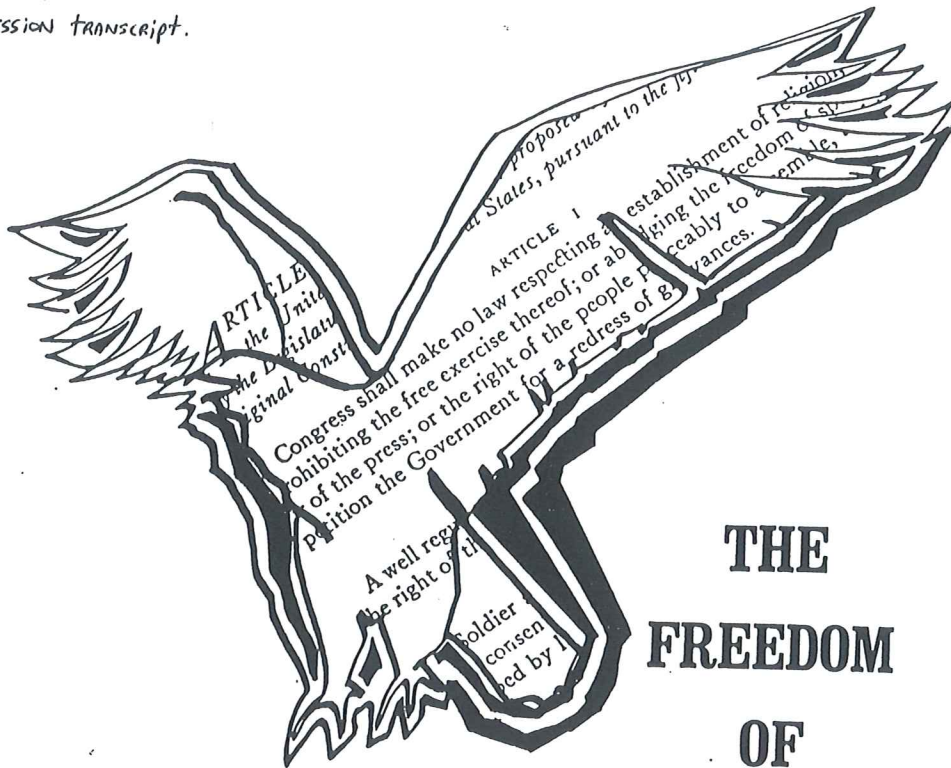
Mr. Rankin. Yes. But we don't have the minutes of the autopsy, and we asked for that because we wanted to see what doctor A said about something while he was saying it, to see whether it is supported by the conclusions in the autopsy and so forth, and then we have volumes of material in which people have purported to have said, or say to various agencies certain things, they are not sworn,

This is page 35 of the Executive Session of 1/21/64. Despite later contrary statements, Rankin is here explicit in saying the Commission did have "the colored photographs of the President's body", the autopsy pictures. This means there was never any need for the fake sketches used as "evidence" (see p. 136). There is

Exhibit L

EXCERPT FROM 1/27/64

EXECUTIVE SESSION TRANSCRIPT.



**THE
FREEDOM
OF
INFORMATION ACT
AND POLITICAL ASSASSINATIONS**

VOLUME 1

David R. Wrone, Editor

**The Legal Proceedings of Harold Weisberg
v. General Services Administration**

**together with the
January 22 and 27 Warren Commission Transcripts**

thing about the fact that he was going to the Cuban Embassy about a visa, she doesn't know that he planned to go to Cuba. That whole episode is entirely unknown to her, and yet he has some note in this little notebook that he had in which he has a silver bracelet that has a name Marina on it that apparently is Mexican, characteristically Mexican bracelet, and he (192) went to, apparently, a bull fight and Jai alai and other things down there, according to his little notebook, and it is difficult to believe that he could be gone that long from her and come back and she would never ask him where he had been, and if he gave her this bracelet which she never says that she ever received, but we are going to have to ask her about all of that, how she could have not known something that was going on about that.

In addition to that, there is this Spanish dictionary, and the books about Spanish where he was trying to learn Spanish, although he had known some Spanish before he went to Russia, and we are trying to run that down to find out what he studied at the Monterey School of the Army in the way of languages because she used to make fun of him, according to some of their Russian friends, about his pronunciation of Spanish words, and he was very clumsy at it, and was embarrassed by her making jokes about that.

THE CHAIRMAN: How would she know that, that he was mispronouncing Spanish words? She couldn't speak Spanish. She couldn't even speak English, she spoke Russian. How would she know that, I wonder.

MR. RANKIN: There is no explanation of her friends saying, and it is possible she got that from her other Russian friends, but there is no indication that they were Spanish-speaking so far as anything we have.

(193) THE CHAIRMAN: Of course there are so many Spanish-speaking people down in Texas.

MR. RANKIN: In the area.

THE CHAIRMAN: That she might have gotten it from someone else.

MR. RANKIN: Then there is a great range of material in regard to the wounds, and the autopsy and this point of exit or entrance of the bullet in the front of the neck, and that all has to be developed much more than we have at the present time.

We have an explanation there in the autopsy that probably a fragment came out the front of the neck, but with the elevation the shot must have come from, and the angle, it seems quite apparent now, since we have the picture of where the bullet entered in the back, that the bullet entered below the shoulder blade to the right of the backbone, which is below the place where the picture shows the bullet came out in the neckband of the shirt in front, and the bullet, according to the autopsy didn't strike any bone at all, that particular bullet, and go through.

JANUARY 2

So that

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idn't strike any bone at all,

So that how it could turn and—

REP. BOGGS: I thought I read that bullet just went in a finger's length.

MR. RANKIN: That is what they first said. They reached in and they
could feel where it came, it didn't go any further than that, about part of the
finger or something, part of the autopsy, and then they proceeded to recon-
struct where they thought (194) the bullet went, the path of it, and, which is,
we have to go into considerable items and try to find out how they could re-
construct that when they first said that they couldn't even feel the path be-
yond the part of a finger.

And then how it could become elevated; even so it raised rather than
coming out at a sharp angle that it entered, all of that, we have to go into,
too, and we are asking for help from the ballistic experts on that.

We will have to probably get help from the doctors about it, and find
out, we have asked for the original notes of the autopsy on that question,
too.

Now, the bullet fragments are now, part of them are now, with the
Atomic Energy Commission, who are trying to determine by a new method,
a process that they have, of whether they can relate them to various guns
and the different parts, the fragments, whether they are a part of one of the
bullets that was broken and came out in part through the neck, and just what
particular assembly of bullet they were part of.

They have had it for the better part of two and a-half weeks and we
ought to get an answer.

So the basic problem, what kind of a wound it is in the front of the
neck is of great importance to the investigation.

We believe it must be related in some way to the three sheets from the
rear.

SEN. COOPER: You mean in the back?

(195) MR. RANKIN: One, or something from a shot at the top of the
head.

MR. McCLOY: It is possible that the third shot could have had a frag-
mentation.

SEN. COOPER: One doctor, as I remember, projected manual massage,
to resuscitate him, that would cause the bullet to come back out of the back.
Do you remember that?

SEN. RUSSELL: Have you collected these charges against the raw
material in here?

MR. RANKIN: I haven't, we may.

Exhibit M

Two pages from
A NEWS CONFERENCE
with Parkland
Hospital doctors

This Copy For

NEWS CONFERENCE

~~SECRET~~ #1

AT THE WHITE HOUSE

WITH WAYNE HAWKS

NOVEMBER 22, 1963

3:16 P.M. CST

Friday

Dallas, Texas

MR. HAWKS: Let me have your attention, please.

You wanted to talk to some of the attending physicians. I have two of them here, Dr. Malcolm Perry, an attending surgeon here at the Parkland Memorial Hospital. He will talk to you first, and then Dr. Kemp Clark, the chief neurosurgeon here at the hospital. He will tell you what he knows about it. Dr. Perry.

Q. Were you in attendance when the President died?

Q. Let him tell his story.

DR. MALCOLM PERRY: I was summoned to the Emergency Room shortly after the President was brought in, on an emergency basis, immediately after the President's arrival. Upon reaching his side, I noted that he was in critical condition from a wound of the neck and of the head. Immediate resuscitative measures --

Q. Would you go slower?

DR. PERRY: I noted he was in a critical condition from the wound in the neck and the head.

Q. Could that be done by one shot?

DR. PERRY: I cannot conjecture. I don't know.

Q. A wound of the neck and of the --

DR. PERRY: -- of the head. Immediate resuscitative measures were undertaken, and Dr. Kemp Clark, Professor of Neurosurgery, was summoned, along with several other members of the surgical and medical staff. They arrived immediately, but at this point the President's condition did not allow complete resuscitation.

Q. What do you mean by "complete resuscitation"?

DR. PERRY: He was critically ill and moribund at the time these measures were begun.

Q. Completely ill and what?

DR. PERRY: Moribund.

MORE

COPY

LYNDON BAINES JOHNSON LIBRARY

Q. Where was the entrance wound?

DR. PERRY: There was an entrance wound in the neck. As regards the one on the head, I cannot say.

Q. Which way was the bullet coming on the neck wound? At him?

DR. PERRY: It appeared to be coming at him.

Q. And the one behind?

DR. PERRY: The nature of the wound defies the ability to describe whether it went through it from either side. I cannot tell you that. Can you, Dr. Clark?

DR. CLARK: The head wound could have been either the exit wound from the neck or it could have been a tangential wound, as it was simply a large, gaping loss of tissue.

Q. That was the immediate cause of death -- the head wound?

DR. CLARK: I assume so; yes.

Q. There is a rumor that Lyndon Johnson had a heart attack, and I would like to check that out.

DR. CLARK: I have no information.

MR. HAWKS: I don't believe these gentlemen were in attendance with the Vice President.

Q. Where was he when this was going on?

MR. HAWKS: That is not the question you should put to this doctor.

Q. Can you tell us where he is?

MR. HAWKS: I can't now, but Mr. Kilduff will be available later and we will take those details then.

Q. We can't hear you.

MR. HAWKS: They are asking where the Vice President was, but I don't know at the moment. That is not the proper question to put to these gentlemen. They were busy with the President at the time.

Q. Where was Mrs. Kennedy?

MR. HAWKS: I don't know that detail either. As you might suspect, we were all busy around here.

Q. Can't we clear this up just a little more? In your estimation, was there one or two wounds? Just give us something.

DR. PERRY: I don't know. From the injury, it is

MORE

Exhibit N

from Hearings And Exhibits

of the WARREN Commission

Vol. 2
Hearings

Vol. 2 p 127

Vol. 18 p 744

Vol 2 p 365

... and say, "I am

ere in the emergency

...?

e door closed most of
as--while they were

ave part of the time?
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d back to the airport

esident Johnson?

back into the state
of the plane, as close

did you personally return to Washington, D.C.?
ed on Air Force 1 with the President's remains.
it approximately what time did you leave Dallas to fly back?
d have to look in my reports to say exactly. I would have
s. Two something but I don't remember.
ou have any idea of the time you arrived in the Washington

Mr. GREER. I believe it was 6 or 6:15. As I say I have it in my reports but I haven't looked at the times recently.

Mr. SPECTER. Where did you arrive in the Washington area?

Mr. GREER. At Andrews Air Force Base.

Mr. SPECTER. What did you do next in connection with this matter?

Mr. GREER. I helped to get the casket out of the plane, and put it into a Navy ambulance and then I drove that Navy ambulance to Bethesda Naval Center.

Mr. SPECTER. What did you do upon arriving at the Bethesda Naval Center?

Mr. GREER. I stayed in, while the autopsy was being performed, I stayed in the autopsy room with Mr. Kellerman and the doctors and the people who were in there. I stayed in there and observed what was necessary that I could do.

Mr. SPECTER. Were any Secret Service Agents present besides you and Mr. Kellerman?

Mr. GREER. No, sir.

Mr. SPECTER. At the autopsy?

Mr. GREER. There may have been, Mr. Hill may have come in and out but he didn't stay there. Mr. Kellerman and I stayed permanently the whole time there. There may have been, Mr. Hill may have come in there and have gone back out but he didn't stay in there.

Mr. SPECTER. During the course of the autopsy did you hear any doctor say anything about the wound on the right side of Mr. Kennedy's back?

Mr. GREER. That was the first time that I had ever seen it, when the doctors were performing the autopsy, they saw this hole in the right shoulder or back of the head, and in the back, and that was the first I had known that he was ever shot there, and they brought it to our attention or discussed it there a little bit.

Mr. SPECTER. What conversation was there concerning the wound on the right back?

Mr. GREER. Well, the doctors and people who were performing the autopsy, when they turned the body apparently over they discovered that this wound was in the back, and they thought that they probably could get a bullet out of there, and it took a lot of--then they took more X-rays, they took a lot of X-rays, we looked at them and couldn't find the trace of any bullet anywhere in the X-rays at all, nothing showed on the X-rays where this bullet or lead could have gone.

Mr. SPECTER. Approximately where in the President's back was the bullet hole?

Mr. GREER. It was, to the best of my recollection it was, back here, just in the soft part of that shoulder.

Mr. SPECTER. Indicating the upper right shoulder area?

Mr. GREER. Upper right, yes.

Mr. SPECTER. Was there any effort made to probe that wound by any doctor?

Mr. GREER. I believe, yes, I believe the doctors probed to see if they could find that there was a bullet there.

Mr. SPECTER. Do you know which doctor that was?

Mr. GREER. No, sir; I don't, I don't have their names at this time.

Mr. SPECTER. Did any doctor make any statement about the results of his probing effort?

Mr. GREER. I questioned one of the doctors in there about that, and when we found out that they had found a bullet in Dallas, I questioned the doctor about it and he said if they were using pressure on the chest that it could very well have been, come back out, where it went in at, that is what they said at the time. (At this point, Representative Ford entered the hearing room.)

Mr. SPECTER. Was anything said about any channel being present in the body for the bullet to have gone on through the back?

Mr. GREER. No, sir; I hadn't heard anything like that, any trace of it going on through.

We departed Parkland Memorial Hospital at 2:04 p.m. SA Lawson rode in the Dallas Police Department Lead Car. A Secret Service follow-up car followed immediately behind the hearse. The motorcade arrived at Air Force One, Love Field, at 2:14 p.m.

At 2:18 p.m. the casket was placed aboard Air Force One with Mrs. Kennedy accompanying it. The casket was situated in the left rear corner of the aircraft where four seats had been removed. Mrs. Kennedy sat in one of the two seats immediately across the aisle from the casket.

The aircraft could not immediately depart because Vice-President Johnson had to be sworn in as the 36th President of the United States and it was necessary to wait for a Judge to arrive to do this. All personnel on Air Force One including Mrs. Kennedy were requested to witness the swearing in ceremony which took place in the Presidential Compartment of Air Force One at 2:38 p.m. I also attended.

I departed Love Field, Dallas, aboard Air Force One at 2:47 p.m. en route to Andrews Air Force Base, Maryland. I arrived at Andrews Air Force Base at 5:58 p.m. I assisted in moving the casket bearing the President's body from Air Force One to a U. S. Navy ambulance. Mrs. Kennedy got in the back of the ambulance with the casket as did Attorney General Robert Kennedy, who had joined Mrs. Kennedy aboard Air Force One upon arrival at Andrews Air Force Base. General Godfrey McHugh also rode in the back of the ambulance. The ambulance was driven by SA Greer with ASAIC Kellerman, SA Landis, and Admiral Burkley riding in the front seat. I followed in the car immediately behind the ambulance with Dr. John W. Walsh, Dave Powers, Kenneth O'Donnell and Larry O'Brien.

The motorcade departed Andrews Air Force Base for Bethesda Naval Hospital, Bethesda, Maryland, at 6:10 p.m. We were escorted by motorcycle police officers. The motorcade arrived Bethesda Naval Hospital at 6:55 p.m. Mrs. Kennedy, the Attorney General, SA Landis and I went immediately inside and via elevator to the 17th Floor of the hospital, the location of the Presidential Suite. Members of the immediate family and close friends were waiting in the suite.

The President's body was taken to the morgue at the hospital, accompanied by ASAIC Kellerman, SA Greer, and Admiral Burkley, for an autopsy. SA Landis and I secured the 17th Floor of the hospital and remained there with Mrs. Kennedy. We established a communications system with the White House and handled all telephone calls both incoming and outgoing, screening each and every call. Any person attempting to reach the 17th Floor was also screened.

At approximately 2:45 a.m., November 23, I was requested by ASAIC Kellerman to come to the morgue to once again view the body. When I arrived the autopsy had been completed and ASAIC Kellerman, SA Greer, General McHugh and I viewed the wounds. I observed a wound about six inches down from the neckline on the back just to the right of the spinal column. I observed another wound on

COMMISSION EXHIBIT 1024—Continued

the right rear portion were at this time prepared had been obtained from

I went back to the President's body at 3:56 a.m., accompanied by a U. S. Navy ambulance in the right front seat. I rode immediately behind the police and arrived at the East immediately to the East

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I have placed Com-

mission Exhibits Nos. 393 being the coat worn by the President, 394 being the shirt, and 395 being the President's tie, and at this time move for their admission into evidence.

The CHAIRMAN. It may be admitted.

(The articles of clothing referred to were marked Commission Exhibits Nos. 393, 394 and 395 for identification, and received in evidence.)

Mr. SPECTER. Taking 393 at the start, Doctor Humes, will you describe for the record what hole, if any, is observable in the back of that garment which would be at or about the spot you have described as being the point of entry on the President's back or lower neck.

Commander HUMES. Yes, sir. This exhibit is a grey suit coat stated to have been worn by the President on the day of his death. Situated to the right of the midline high in the back portion of the coat is a defect, one margin of which is semicircular.

Situated above it just below the collar is an additional defect. It is our opinion that the lower of these defects corresponds essentially with the point of entrance of the missile at Point C on Exhibit 385.

Mr. SPECTER. Would it be accurate to state that the hole which you have identified as being the point of entry is approximately 6 inches below the top of the collar, and 2 inches to the right of the middle seam of the coat?

Commander HUMES. That is approximately correct, sir. This defect, I might say, continues on through the material.

Attached to this garment is the memorandum which states that one half of the area around the hole which was presented had been removed by experts, I believe, at the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and also that a control area was taken from under the collar, so it is my interpretation that this defect at the top of this garment is the control area taken by the Bureau, and that the reason the lower defect is not more circle or oval in outline is because a portion of that defect has been removed apparently for physical examinations.

Mr. SPECTER. Now, does the one which you have described as the entry of the bullet go all the way through?

Commander HUMES. Yes, sir; it goes through both layers.

Mr. SPECTER. How about the upper one of the collar you have described, does that go all the way through?

Commander HUMES. Yes, sir; it goes all the way through. It is not—wait a minute, excuse me—it is not so clearly a puncture wound as the one below.

Mr. SPECTER. Does the upper one go all the way through in the same course?

Commander HUMES. No.

Mr. SPECTER. Through the inner side as it went through the outer side?

Commander HUMES. No, in an irregular fashion.

Mr. SPECTER. Will you take Commission Exhibit 394 and describe what that is, first of all, please?

Commander HUMES. This is the shirt, blood-stained shirt, purportedly worn by the President on the day of his assassination. When viewed from behind at a point which corresponds essentially with the point of defect on the jacket, one sees an irregularly oval defect.

When viewed anteriorly, with the top button buttoned, two additional defects are seen. Of course, with the shirt buttoned, the fly front of the shirt causes two layers of cloth to be present in this location, and that there is a defect in the inner layer of cloth and a corresponding defect in the outer layer of the cloth.

Mr. SPECTER. Is there any observable indication from the fibers on the front side of the shirt to indicate in which direction a missile might have passed through those two tears?

Commander HUMES. From an examination of these defects at this point, it would appear that the missile traversed these two layers from within to the exterior.

Mr. SPECTER. Would it be accurate to state that the hole in the back of the shirt is approximately 6 inches below the top of the collar and 2 inches to the right of the middle seam of the shirt?

Commander HUMES. That is approximately correct, sir.

Mr. SPECTER. Now, how, if at all, do the holes in the shirt and coat conform

Exhibit O

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best you can do today, and I appreciate that, and so does the President's Commission, and that's all we can ask a man.

Mr. TOMLINSON. Yes, I'm going to tell you all I can, and I'm not going to tell you something I can't lay down and sleep at night with either.

Mr. SPECTER. Do you know where the stretcher came from that you found on the elevator?

Mr. TOMLINSON. No, sir; I do not. It could have come from two, it could have come from three, it could have come from some other place.

Mr. SPECTER. You didn't see anybody put it there?

Mr. TOMLINSON. No, sir—it was on the elevator when I got there. There wasn't anyone on the elevator at the time when I keyed it off.

Mr. SPECTER. And when you say "keyed it off," you mean?

Mr. TOMLINSON. Put it in manual operation.

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. Tomlinson, does it make any difference to you whether you sign this deposition at the end or not?

Mr. TOMLINSON. No.

Mr. SPECTER. We very much appreciate your coming, Mr. Tomlinson. Thank you very much. Those are all the questions I have.

Mr. TOMLINSON. All right. Thank you.

Mr. SPECTER. Off the record.

(Discussion between counsel and the witness Tomlinson regarding a proposed exhibit.)

Mr. SPECTER. On the record.

Now that the deposition of Mr. Tomlinson has been concluded, I am having the paper marked as Tomlinson Exhibit No. 2.

(Instrument marked by the reporter as Tomlinson Exhibit No. 2, for identification.)

Mr. SPECTER. May the record show that Mr. Tomlinson is present, and will you identify this paper marked Tomlinson Exhibit No. 2 as the one which contains the diagram of the emergency room and the letters A and B of the stretchers we have been discussing?

Mr. TOMLINSON. That's just the elevator lobby in emergency.

Mr. SPECTER. And this is the diagram which you drew for us?

Mr. TOMLINSON. Yes.

Mr. SPECTER. That's all, and thank you very much.

TESTIMONY OF DIANA HAMILTON BOWRON

The testimony of Diana Hamilton Bowron was taken at 2:05 p.m., on March 24, 1964, at Parkland Memorial Hospital, Dallas, Tex., by Mr. Arlen Specter, assistant counsel of the President's Commission.

Mr. SPECTER. May the record show that Diana Bowron is present following a verbal request that she appear here to have her deposition taken. During the course of deposition proceedings on March 20 and March 21, it came to my attention that Miss Bowron would have information of value to the Commission, and authorization was provided through the General Counsel, J. Lee Rankin, for her deposition to be taken.

Miss Bowron, the President's Commission is investigating the assassination of President Kennedy and is interested in certain facts relating to his treatment and presence at Parkland Memorial Hospital, and we have asked you to appear here to testify concerning your knowledge of his presence here.

Now, I have shown you, have I not, the Executive order appointing the Presidential Commission and the resolution authorizing the taking of testimony at depositions by Commission staff members, have I not?

Miss Bowron. Yes.

Mr. SPECTER. And are you willing to have your deposition taken today without 3 days' written notice, as we ordinarily provide?

Miss Bowron. Yes.

Mr. SPECTER. So, all right.

Miss Bowron. Yes.

Mr. SPECTER. All right.

Do you solemnly swear

Commission in these

and nothing but the

Miss Bowron. I do.

Mr. SPECTER. What is

Miss Bowron. 1107

Mr. SPECTER. Will you

Miss Bowron. Be-

Mr. SPECTER. Thank

Miss Bowron. I am

Mr. SPECTER. And he

Miss Bowron. Since

Mr. SPECTER. And

here at Parkland Mem

Miss Bowron. I am

year's contract and to

Mr. SPECTER. Are you

Miss Bowron. Yes.

Mr. SPECTER. And you

Miss Bowron. I was

and then I went there

I finished in February

Mr. SPECTER. And he

Miss Bowron. Two

Mr. SPECTER. Did you

nearly back on November

Miss Bowron. I did

Mr. SPECTER. Will

being called in to assist

Miss Bowron. I was

area and I was pass

that they needed en

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from major surgery a

some men I assume we

Mr. SPECTER. Did you

Miss Bowron. No.

Mr. SPECTER. You had

Miss Bowron. Yes.

Mr. SPECTER. And did

Miss Bowron. Yes.

Mr. SPECTER. And you

forward at that time?

Miss Bowron. The

OB-GYN section.

Mr. SPECTER. That's

Miss Bowron. Yes.

Mr. SPECTER. And

one helping?

Miss Bowron. No.

Mr. SPECTER. Was it

Miss Bowron. Yes.

Mr. SPECTER. Who

Miss Bowron. Joe

his first name is Joe a

Mr. SPECTER. And you

Miss Bowron. I did

one stretcher. I don't

Exhibit P

pp. 112-114

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HEARINGS AND

Exhibits of the

WARREN Commission

Mr. SPECTER. Dr. Shaw, I now show you a body diagram which is marked "Commission Exhibit No. 689."

Senator COOPER. May I ask a question before you ask that question?

When you first saw Governor Connally in the emergency room was he dressed or undressed?

Dr. SHAW. His trousers were still on. He had his shorts on, I should say, Senator Cooper, but his coat, shirt, and trousers had been removed.

Mr. SPECTER. Were his clothes anywhere in the vicinity where you could have seen them?

Dr. SHAW. No; I never saw them. This is the first time that I saw them.

Mr. SPECTER. That is earlier today when you examined them in this room?

Dr. SHAW. That is correct.

Mr. SPECTER. Looking at Commission Exhibit No. 689, is that a drawing which was prepared, after consultation with you, representing the earlier theory of all of the Governor's wounds having been inflicted by a single missile?

Dr. SHAW. That is correct.

Mr. SPECTER. With reference to that diagram, would you explain the position that you had earlier thought the Governor to have been in when he was wounded here?

Dr. SHAW. We felt that the Governor was in an upright sitting position, and at the time of wounding was turning slightly to the right. This would bring the three wounds, as we know them, the wound in the chest, the wound in the wrist, and the wound in the thigh into a line assuming that the right forearm was held against the lower right chest in front.

The line of inclination of this particular diagram is a little more sharply downward than is probably correct in view of the inclination of the ribs of the chest.

Mr. SPECTER. Will you redraw that line, Dr. Shaw, to conform with what you believe to be—

Dr. SHAW. The fact that the muscle bundles on either side of the fifth rib were not damaged meant that the missile to strip away 10 centimeters of the rib had to follow this rib pretty much along its line of inclination.

Mr. DULLES. I wonder if you could use that red pencil to make it a little clearer for us?

Dr. SHAW. I think these would probably work well on this paper. Perhaps this isn't a tremendous point but it slopes just a little too much.

Mr. SPECTER. You have initialed that to show your incline?

Dr. SHAW. Yes.

Mr. SPECTER. With respect to the wound you described on the thigh, Dr. Shaw, was there any point of exit as to that wound?

Dr. SHAW. No.

Mr. SPECTER. I now show you—

Mr. DULLES. Could I ask one more question there, how deep was the wound of entry, could you tell at all?

Dr. SHAW. Mr. Dulles, I didn't examine the wound of the thigh so I can't testify as to that. Dr. Gregory, I think, was there at the time that the debris was carried out and he may have more knowledge than I have.

Mr. DULLES. We will hear Dr. Gregory later?

Mr. SPECTER. Yes; he is scheduled to testify as soon as Dr. Shaw concludes.

Dr. Shaw, I now show you Commission Exhibit 399 which has heretofore been identified as being a virtually whole bullet weighing 158 grains.

May I say for the record, that in the depositions which have been taken in Parkland Hospital, that we have ascertained, and those depositions are part of the overall record, that is the bullet which came from the stretcher of Governor Connally.

First, Dr. Shaw, have you had a chance to examine that bullet earlier today?

Dr. SHAW. Yes; I examined it this morning.

Mr. SPECTER. Is it possible that the bullet which went through the Governor's chest could have emerged being as fully intact as that bullet is?

Dr. SHAW. Yes; I believe it is possible because of the fact that the bullet

struck the fifth rib a would not offer a great

Mr. SPECTER. Does

Dr. SHAW. I have is deformed was cut would have to say the

Mr. SPECTER. Now, into the Governor's the face of that bullet

Dr. SHAW. If it would have caused the

Mr. SPECTER. Why what your thinking is

Dr. SHAW. Only that the depth of the into the muscle of a short period. Am I q

Mr. SPECTER. May money and—

Dr. GREGORY. I will

Mr. SPECTER. And edge of the wound could have gone through intact as it is?

Dr. SHAW. I do not

Mr. SPECTER. Dr. thetical form, that is

back or lower portion strap muscles of the

ing no bones, not within third of the neck, with

muzzle velocity of an approximately 160 feet

a copper jacketed bullet

ceeded approximate struck Governor Connally

have described on the aspect of his chest?

Dr. SHAW. Yes.

Mr. SPECTER. And to that question, Dr

Dr. SHAW. Because striking no more than and mass to inflict.

Mr. SPECTER. Now Commission Exhibit Governor, is it possible

described in the by wounds in accordance

Exhibit No. 689?

Dr. SHAW. Assuming you mean?

Mr. SPECTER. No; Dr. SHAW. All right

that this bullet could wrist both by X-ray

metal that make it these two wounds.

far as the—I mean

Mr. SPECTER. You the bullet which was

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struck the fifth rib at a very acute angle and struck a portion of the rib which would not offer a great amount of resistance.

Mr. SPECTER. Does that bullet appear to you to have any of its metal flaked off?

Dr. SHAW. I have been told that the one point on the nose of this bullet that is deformed was cut off for purposes of examination. With that information, I would have to say that this bullet has lost literally none of its substance.

Mr. SPECTER. Now, as to the wound on the thigh, could that bullet have gone into the Governor's thigh without causing any more damage than appears on the face of that bullet?

Dr. SHAW. If it was a spent bullet; yes. As far as the bullet is concerned it could have caused the Governor's thigh wound as a spent missile.

Mr. SPECTER. Why do you say it is a spent missile, would you elaborate on what your thinking is on that issue?

Dr. SHAW. Only from what I have been told by Dr. Shires and Dr. Gregory, that the depth of the wound was only into the subcutaneous tissue, not actually into the muscle of the leg, so it meant that missile had penetrated for a very short period. Am I quoting you correctly, Dr. Gregory?

Mr. SPECTER. May the record show Dr. Gregory is present during this testimony and—

Dr. GREGORY. I will say yes.

Mr. SPECTER. And indicates in the affirmative. Do you have sufficient knowledge of the wound of the wrist to render an opinion as to whether that bullet could have gone through Governor Connally's wrist and emerged being as much intact as it is?

Dr. SHAW. I do not.

Mr. SPECTER. Dr. Shaw, assume if you will certain facts to be true in hypothetical form, that is, that the President was struck in the upper portion of the back or lower portion of the neck with a 6.5-mm. missile passing between the strap muscles of the President's neck, proceeding through a fascia channel striking no bones, not violating the pleural cavity, and emerging through the anterior third of the neck, with the missile having been fired from a weapon having a muzzle velocity of approximately 2,000 feet per second, with the muzzle being approximately 100 to 250 feet from the President's body; that the missile was a copper jacketed bullet. Would it be possible for that bullet to have then proceeded approximately 4 or 5 feet and then would it be possible for it to have struck Governor Connally in the back and have inflicted the wound which you have described on the posterior aspect of his chest, and also on the anterior aspect of his chest?

Dr. SHAW. Yes.

Mr. SPECTER. And what would your reason be for giving an affirmative answer to that question, Dr. Shaw?

Dr. SHAW. Because I would feel that a missile with this velocity and weight striking no more than the soft tissues of the neck would have adequate velocity and mass to inflict the wound that we found on the Governor's chest.

Mr. SPECTER. Now, without respect to whether or not the bullet identified as Commission Exhibit 399 is or is not the one which inflicted the wound on the Governor, is it possible that a missile similar to the one which I have just described in the hypothetical question could have inflicted all of the Governor's wounds in accordance with the theory which you have outlined on Commission Exhibit No. 689?

Dr. SHAW. Assuming that it also had passed through the President's neck you mean?

Mr. SPECTER. No; I had not added that factor in. I will in the next question.

Dr. SHAW. All right. As far as the wounds of the chest are concerned, I feel that this bullet could have inflicted those wounds. But the examination of the wrist both by X-ray and at the time of surgery showed some fragments of metal that make it difficult to believe that the same missile could have caused these two wounds. There seems to be more than three grains of metal missing as far as the—I mean in the wrist.

Mr. SPECTER. Your answer there, though, depends upon the assumption that the bullet which we have identified as Exhibit 399 is the bullet which did the

damage to the Governor. Aside from whether or not that is the bullet which inflicted the Governor's wounds.

Dr. SHAW. I see.

Mr. SPECTER. Could a bullet traveling in the path which I have described in the prior hypothetical question, have inflicted all of the wounds on the Governor?

Dr. SHAW. Yes.

Mr. SPECTER. And so far as the velocity and the dimension of the bullet are concerned, is it possible that the same bullet could have gone through the President in the way that I have described and proceed through the Governor causing all of his wounds without regard to whether or not it was bullet 399?

Dr. SHAW. Yes.

Mr. SPECTER. When you started to comment about it not being possible, was that in reference to the existing mass and shape of bullet 399?

Dr. SHAW. I thought you were referring directly to the bullet shown as Exhibit 399.

Mr. SPECTER. What is your opinion as to whether bullet 399 could have inflicted all of the wounds on the Governor, then, without respect at this point to the wound of the President's neck?

Dr. SHAW. I feel that there would be some difficulty in explaining all of the wounds as being inflicted by bullet Exhibit 399 without causing more in the way of loss of substance to the bullet or deformation of the bullet.

(Discussion off the record.)

Mr. SPECTER. Dr. Shaw, have you had an opportunity today here in the Commission building to view the movies which we referred to as the Zapruder movies and the slides taken from these movies?

Dr. SHAW. Yes.

Mr. SPECTER. And what, if any, light did those movies shed on your evaluation and opinions on this matter with respect to the wounds of the Governor?

Dr. SHAW. Well, my main interest was to try to place the time that the Governor was struck by the bullet which inflicted the wound on his chest in reference to the sequence of the three shots, as has been described to us.

(At this point the Chief Justice entered the hearing room.)

This meant trying to carefully examine the position of the Governor's body in the car so that it would fall in line with what we knew the trajectory must be for this bullet coming from the point where it has been indicated it did come from. And in trying to place this actual frame that these frames are numbered when the Governor was hit, my opinion was that it was frame number, let's see, I think it was No. 36.

Mr. SPECTER. 236?

Dr. SHAW. 230, give or take 1 or 2 frames. It was right in 35, 36, 37, perhaps.

Mr. SPECTER. I have heretofore asked you questions about what possibly could have happened in terms of the various combinations of possibilities on missiles striking the Governor in relationship to striking the President as well. Do you have any opinion as to what, in fact, did happen?

Dr. SHAW. Yes. From the pictures, from the conversation with Governor Connally and Mrs. Connally, it seems that the first bullet hit the President in the shoulder and perforated the neck, but this was not the bullet that Governor Connally feels hit him; and in the sequence of films I think it is hard to say that the first bullet hit both of these men almost simultaneously.

Mr. SPECTER. Is that view based on the information which Governor Connally provided to you?

Dr. SHAW. Largely.

Mr. SPECTER. As opposed to any objectively determinable facts from the bullets, the situs of the wounds or your viewing of the pictures?

Dr. SHAW. Yes. I was influenced a great deal by what Governor Connally knew about his movements in the car at this particular time.

Mr. DULLES. You have indicated a certain angle of declination on this chart here which the Chief Justice has.

Dr. SHAW. Yes.

Mr. SPECTER. Do you know enough about the angle of declination of the bullet that hit the President to judge at all whether these two angles of declination are consistent?

Dr. SHAW. We look back to front so that the wound that the Senator Cooper.

body?

Dr. SHAW. Of the

Mr. SPECTER. Yes

Dr. SHAW. First

Mr. SPECTER. Wh

of declination?

Dr. SHAW. That

Mr. SPECTER. In t

Dr. SHAW. Yes; t

Mr. DULLES. And

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Dr. SHAW. The j

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Mr. SPECTER. Do

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Mr. SPECTER. Yes,

Senator Cooper. I

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Mr. McCloy. Just

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Connally. In your opi

Dr. SHAW. Mr. Mc

Mr. McCloy. We

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Dr. SHAW. On the

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Dr. SHAW. I think

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Mr. McCloy. It did

Dr. SHAW. Obvious

Mr. McCloy. And

velocity of the bullet

Dr. SHAW. Yes.

Mr. DULLES. The w

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Dr. SHAW. Yes; of

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Mr. McCloy. Let i

wounds, is it possibl

Exhibit Q

pp. 361-362

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THE WARREN COMMISSION

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efforts were abandoned
continued cardiac re-
pills remained dilated

ixia means?

Mr. SPECTER. Was cardiac massage applied in this situation?

Dr. CARRICO. Yes, sir; it was, excellent cardiac massage.

Mr. SPECTER. Were bloods administered to the President?

Dr. CARRICO. Yes, sir.

(At this point, Mr. Dulles entered the hearing room.)

Mr. SPECTER. Dr. Carrico, was any action taken with respect to the adrenalin insufficiency of President Kennedy?

Dr. CARRICO. Yes, sir; he was given 300 milligrams of hydrocortisone which is an adrenal hormone.

Mr. SPECTER. And what was the reason for the administration of that drug?

Dr. CARRICO. It was recalled that the President had been said to have adrenal insufficiency.

Mr. SPECTER. Now, at what time was the death of the President pronounced, Doctor?

Dr. CARRICO. At 1 o'clock.

Mr. SPECTER. Who pronounced the death of the President?

Dr. CARRICO. Dr. Clark, I believe.

Mr. SPECTER. Was that a precise time fixed or a general time fixed for the point of death?

Dr. CARRICO. This was a general time, sir.

Mr. SPECTER. What, in your opinion, was the cause of death?

Dr. CARRICO. The head wound, the head injury.

Mr. SPECTER. Will you describe as specifically as you can the head wound which you have already mentioned briefly?

Dr. CARRICO. Sure.

This was a 5- by 71-cm defect in the posterior skull, the occipital region. There was an absence of the calvarium or skull in this area, with shredded tissue, brain tissue present and initially considerable slow oozing. Then after we established some circulation there was more profuse bleeding from this wound.

Mr. SPECTER. Was any other wound observed on the head in addition to this large opening where the skull was absent?

Dr. CARRICO. No other wound on the head.

Mr. SPECTER. Did you have any opportunity specifically to look for a small wound which was below the large opening of the skull on the right side of the head?

Dr. CARRICO. No, sir; at least initially there was no time to examine the patient completely for all small wounds. As we said before, this was an acutely ill patient and all we had time to do was to determine what things were life-threatening right then and attempt to resuscitate him and after which a more complete examination would be carried out and we didn't have time to examine for other wounds.

Mr. SPECTER. Was such a more complete examination ever carried out by the doctors in Parkland?

Dr. CARRICO. No, sir; not in my presence.

Mr. SPECTER. Why not?

Dr. CARRICO. As we said initially this was an acute emergency situation and there was not time initially and when the cardiac massage was done this prevented any further examination during this time this was being done. After the President was pronounced dead his wife was there, he was the President, and we felt certainly that complete examination would be carried out and no one had the heart, I believe, to examine him then.

Mr. SPECTER. Will you describe, as specifically as you can then, the neck wounds which you heretofore mentioned briefly?

Dr. CARRICO. There was a small wound, 5- to 8-mm. in size, located in the lower third of the neck, below the thyroid cartilage, the Adams apple.

Mr. DULLES. Will you show us about where it was?

Dr. CARRICO. Just about where your tie would be.

Mr. DULLES. Where did it enter?

Dr. CARRICO. It entered?

Mr. DULLES. Yes.

Dr. CARRICO. At the time we did not know—

Mr. DULLES. I see.

Dr. CARRICO. The entrance. All we knew this was a small wound here.

Mr. DULLES. I see. And you put your hand right above where your tie is?

Dr. CARRICO. Yes, sir; just where the tie—

Mr. DULLES. A little bit to the left.

Dr. CARRICO. To the right.

Mr. DULLES. Yes; to the right.

Dr. CARRICO. Yes. And this wound was fairly round, had no jagged edges, no evidence of powder burns, and so forth.

Representative FORD. No evidence of powder burns?

Dr. CARRICO. So far as I know.

Representative FORD. In the front?

Dr. CARRICO. Yes.

Mr. SPECTER. Have you now described that wound as specifically as you can based upon your observations at the time?

Dr. CARRICO. I believe so.

Mr. SPECTER. And your recollection at the time of those observations?

Dr. CARRICO. Yes; an even round wound.

Mr. DULLES. You felt this wound in the neck was not a fatal wound?

Dr. CARRICO. That is right.

Mr. SPECTER. That is, absent the head wound, would the President have survived the wound which was present on his neck?

Dr. CARRICO. I think very likely he would have.

Mr. SPECTER. Based on your observations on the neck wound alone did you have a sufficient basis to form an opinion as to whether it was an entrance or an exit wound?

Dr. CARRICO. No, sir; we did not. Not having completely evaluated all the wounds, traced out the course of the bullets, this wound would have been compatible with either entrance or exit wound depending upon the size, the velocity, the tissue structure and so forth.

Mr. SPECTER. Permit me to add some facts which I shall ask you to assume as being true for purposes of having you express an opinion.

First of all, assume that the President was struck by a 6.5 mm. copper-jacketed bullet from a rifle having a muzzle velocity of approximately 2,000 feet per second at a time when the President was approximately 160 to 250 feet from the weapon, with the President being struck from the rear at a downward angle of approximately 45 degrees, being struck on the upper right posterior thorax just above the upper border of the scapula 14 centimeters from the tip of the right acromion process and 14 centimeters below the tip of the right mastoid process.

Assume further that the missile passed through the body of the President striking no bones, traversing the neck and sliding between the large muscles in the posterior aspect of the President's body through a fascia channel without violating the pleural cavity, but bruising only the apex of the right pleural cavity and bruising the most apical portion of the right lung, then causing a hematoma to the right of the larynx which you have described, and creating a jagged wound in the trachea, then exiting precisely at the point where you observe the puncture wound to exist.

Now based on those facts was the appearance of the wound in your opinion consistent with being an exit wound?

Dr. CARRICO. It certainly was. It could have been under the circumstances.

Mr. SPECTER. And assuming that all the facts which I have given you to be true, do you have an opinion with a reasonable degree of medical certainty as to whether, in fact, the wound was an entrance wound or an exit wound?

Dr. CARRICO. With those facts and the fact as I understand it no other bullet was found this would be, this was, I believe, was an exit wound.

Mr. SPECTER. Were any bullets found in the President's body by the doctors at Parkland?

Dr. CARRICO. No, sir.

Mr. SPECTER. Was the President's clothing ever examined by you, Dr. Carrico?

Dr. CARRICO. No, sir; it was not.

Mr. SPECTER. What was the reason for no examination of the clothing?

Dr. CARRICO. Again in after we had initially as the routine is set up time to look at it.

Mr. SPECTER. Was the you or any of the other d

Dr. CARRICO. No, sir.

Mr. SPECTER. Was the time he was brought to hospital was concluded

Dr. CARRICO. Yes; he

Mr. SPECTER. At what recollection?

Dr. CARRICO. At about Mr. SPECTER. At app where the President wa

Dr. CARRICO. I left ri

Mr. SPECTER. And did remain in the trauma r

Dr. CARRICO. I left be cifically who was there. I believe. And I think D

Mr. SPECTER. You ha testimony up to this pe during the time the Pre

Dr. CARRICO. Well, I resident; Martin White Clelland, a member of i

dent; Dr. Jenkins, chief can't remember at the President's physician, w

Mr. SPECTER. What is the President?

Dr. CARRICO. At the In view of what we h would be my opinion.

Mr. SPECTER. Based assume—

Dr. CARRICO. Yes, sir.

Mr. SPECTER. And also

Dr. CARRICO. Right.

Mr. SPECTER. Which w

Dr. CARRICO. Right.

Mr. SPECTER. Now, w eral Government in con ing President Kennedy i

Dr. CARRICO. We hav whose names I do not r

Mr. SPECTER. On how

Dr. CARRICO. Two oc dent's death, and then interview.

Representative FORD. mean that day?

Dr. CARRICO. No, sir.

Mr. SPECTER. And w Secret Service which y

Dr. CARRICO. This w Dr. McClelland and m which we went over the They discussed the at the treatment with hin

Exhibit R

pp 597-598 Post Mortem
by Harold Weisberg

p. 136 Vol. 6 HEARINGS AND Exhibits of
THE WARREN COMMISSION

EXAMINERS COMMISSION

WILLIAM J. PEEPLER, M.D., CHAIRMAN
ROBERT E. FARBER, M.D.
ROBERT H. HEPTINSTALL, M.D.
ROBERT J. LALLY
ROBERT B. SCHULTZ, M.D.

EXAMINERS

EXAMINER

etc. concerning the Panel
on. The Panel met in
its report on
next few days and submitted
and returned them to me.
fitted them to the Panel
to me and final copies
the Panel for his
sonally delivered the
y and he subsequently
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t seen it since, but
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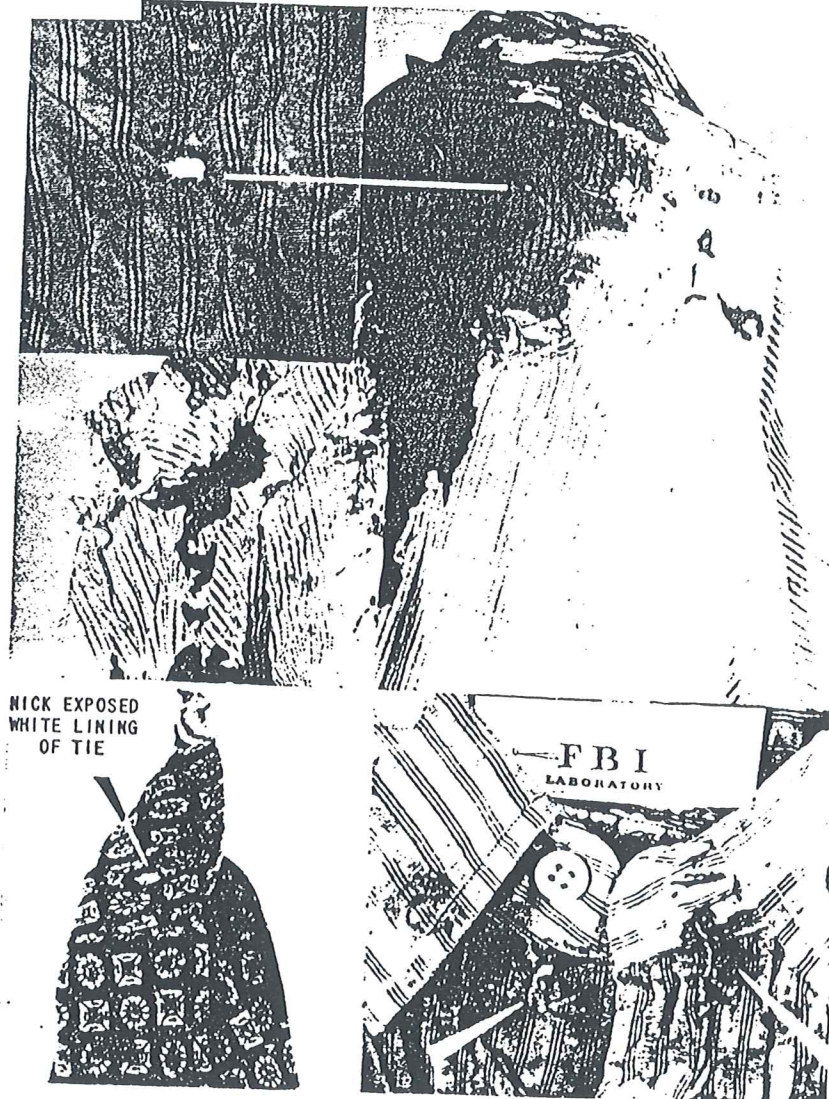
strict Attorney
either appeared in
thing in writing.
Justice Department I

correspondence of yours

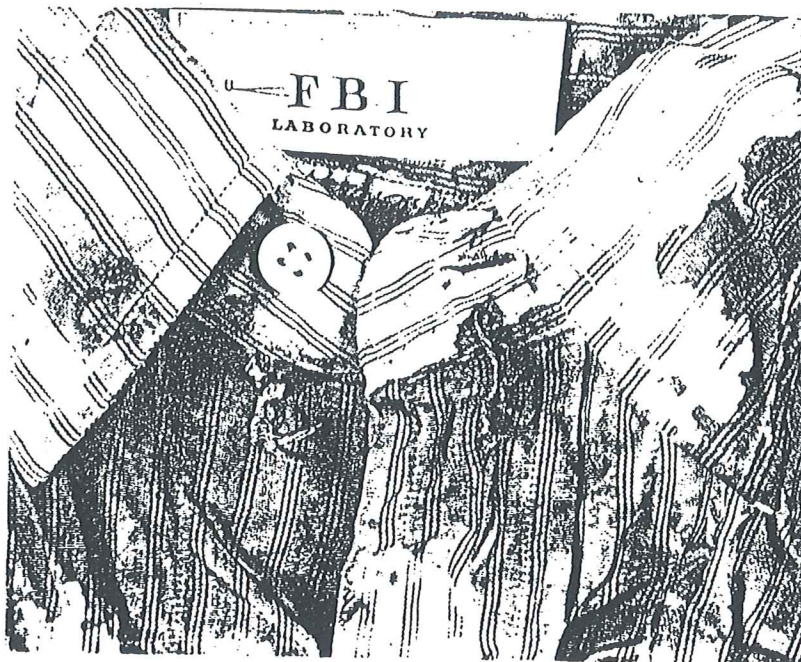
yours,

William J. Fisher
Fisher, M.D.
Local Examiner

the panel members "not to main-
cause "it was felt that estab-
the Archivist might be judged
rred the autopsy materials to
all records was not the answer.
st for preservation. With this
See p. 221.



This is FBI Exhibit 60, which the Commission did not dare print because it contains evidence destructive of its conclusions and its and the FBI's integrity. It is described in Chapter 30, beginning on p.328. The enlargement of the bullet hole in the back of the shirt was printed by the FBI upside down. The actual hole coincides exactly with the real location of this wound, which was lied about. The FBI even twisted the tie to make it appear that there was a hole in the center. Actually, this small nick was made with a scalpel and was on the very edge of the knot. It was enlarged with removal of a sample for scientific testing. The tests were suppressed because they proved no bullet hit the tie or shirt front. This combination of suppressed pictures alone proves that the President was not hit in the back of the neck but in the back and that the bullet hole in the front of his neck was above the shirt. Either is total disproof of the entire "solution."



This is an actual FBI print, not from the Warren Commission's files, obtained as described in Chapter 30, especially beginning on p.328. It has this caption typed on the back: "Photograph depicting portion of Exhibit 60." It is less clear as part of FBI Exhibit 60 (p.597) but in even that form shows much more than any picture the Commission dared print. In itself this picture, presented here for the first time anywhere, destroys the entire Warren Report and means the falsity could not have been accidental. It shows not bullet holes but slits. It also shows that when the shirt is buttoned they do not coincide and on this added basis could not have been made by a bullet. Note that the slit on the button side is entirely below the neckband while that on the buttonhole side extends well up onto it. The FBI and the Commission both knew their representations were false. The Commission blundered into the truth separately when Dulles asked Dr. Carrico where the President's front neck wound was and Carrico told him it was above the shirt. Carrico confirmed this to me when he also confirmed the obvious, that this damage to the shirt was done when the necktie was cut off by nurses under his supervision during emergency treatment.

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DL 100-10401

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after it had p

X-ray
additional evic

The FBI report is
not even report the
reveal how the co
399. Likewise, the
be consistent with
p. 351.

Mr. SPECTER. And what is Dr. Midgett's first name?

Miss BOWRON. Bill.

Mr. SPECTER. And, where did you take your stretcher?

Miss BOWRON. To the left-hand side of the car as you are facing it, and we had to move Governor Connally out first because he was in the front. We couldn't get to the back seat. While all the Secret Service men were moving Governor Connally I went around to the other side of the car to try to help with the President and then we got him onto the second cart and then took him straight over to trauma room 1.

Mr. SPECTER. Trauma room No. 1?

Miss BOWRON. Yes.

Mr. SPECTER. And describe in a general way Governor Connally's condition when you first saw him?

Miss BOWRON. He was very pale, he was leaning forward and onto Mrs. Connally but apparently—I didn't notice very much—I was more concerned with the person in the back of the car—the President.

Mr. SPECTER. And what, in a general way, did you observe with respect to President Kennedy's condition?

Miss BOWRON. He was moribund—he was lying across Mrs. Kennedy's knee and there seemed to be blood everywhere. When I went around to the other side of the car I saw the condition of his head.

Mr. SPECTER. You saw the condition of his what?

Miss BOWRON. The back of his head.

Mr. SPECTER. And what was that condition?

Miss BOWRON. Well, it was very bad—you know.

Mr. SPECTER. How many holes did you see?

Miss BOWRON. I just saw one large hole.

Mr. SPECTER. Did you see a small bullet hole beneath that one large hole?

Miss BOWRON. No, sir.

Mr. SPECTER. Did you notice any other wound on the President's body?

Miss BOWRON. No, sir.

Mr. SPECTER. And what action did you take at that time, if any?

Miss BOWRON. I helped to lift his head and Mrs. Kennedy pushed me away and lifted his head herself onto the cart and so I went around back to the cart and walked off with it. We ran on with it to the trauma room and she ran beside us.

Mr. SPECTER. And who was in the trauma room when you arrived there?

Miss BOWRON. Dr. Carrico.

Mr. SPECTER. Where did Dr. Carrico join you?

Miss BOWRON. At the—I couldn't really tell you exactly, but it was inside major surgery. Miss Henschliffe, the other nurse who is assigned to major surgery, was in the trauma room already setting the I.V.'s—the intravenous bottles up.

Mr. SPECTER. And were there any other nurses present at that time when the President arrived in the trauma area?

Miss BOWRON. I don't think so, sir.

Mr. SPECTER. Were there any doctors present besides Dr. Carrico?

Miss BOWRON. I didn't notice anybody—there may have been.

Mr. SPECTER. What action did you observe Dr. Carrico take, if any?

Miss BOWRON. We tried to start an I.V. cutdown and I don't know whether it was his left or his right leg, and Miss Henschliffe and I cut off his clothing and then after that everybody just arrived at once and it was more or less everybody sort of helping everybody else. We opened the chest tube trays and the venesection trays.

Mr. SPECTER. How long were you present in the emergency room No. 1?

Miss BOWRON. I was in there until they needed some blood, which was the second lot of blood. I went—ran out across to the blood bank and came back and went into the trauma room. By that time they had decided that he was dead, they said.

And then, we stayed in there with him and cleaned him up, removed all of his clothing and put them all together and Miss Henschliffe gave them to

one of the Secret and helped put it

Mr. SPECTER. A

Miss BOWRON.

Mr. SPECTER.

Miss BOWRON.

us to clean the floor rather a mess or wouldn't look so wanted to be able there outside and go in any more

Mr. SPECTER. I

Miss BOWRON.

Mr. SPECTER.

treated?

Miss BOWRON.

Mr. SPECTER. I

Miss BOWRON.

Mr. SPECTER. A already mentioned Miss BOWRON, the supervisor.

Mr. SPECTER.

Miss BOWRON.

Mr. SPECTER. A

ever have any of Miss BOWRON. Mr. SPECTER. I and removed the take much notice

Mr. SPECTER. I trach tube?

Miss BOWRON.

Mr. SPECTER.

Kennedy's body Miss BOWRON.

Mr. SPECTER.

stretcher?

Miss BOWRON.

Mr. SPECTER. removed to be in No. 1 on?

Miss BOWRON.

Mr. SPECTER. I

Miss BOWRON.

Mr. SPECTER. A area used in the

Miss BOWRON.

took it out with been done on his know, really no head so it would that nobody would work that was go

Mr. SPECTER. A floor area there?

Miss BOWRON.

Mr. SPECTER. I

Miss BOWRON.

Mr. SPECTER. A